



WORKS IN PROGRESS

"In my country the little fish seem to have gotten together and are nibbling at the body of the whale." James Baldwin

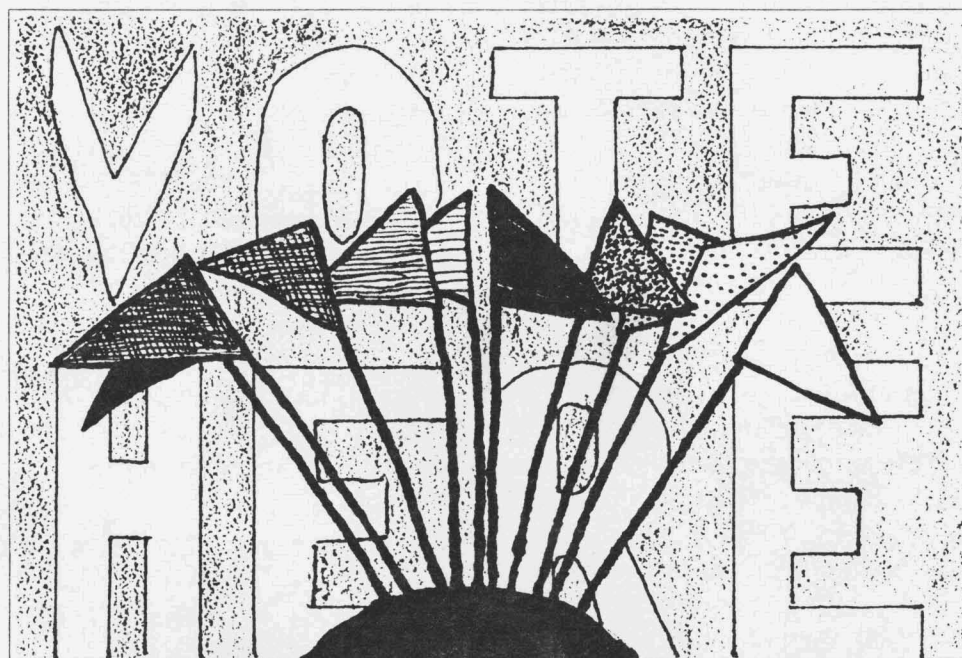
Free

Teresa Jennings

This year we go again through our quadrennial pastime of picking a president. Despite the fact that there are more than two parties, we continue to hear only of two. No wonder politics in this country is easily likened to a football game; the only difference in the teams, their mascots. While some may find distinction between the Democrat and Republican Parties--no one can truly call them major parties when the number of people who don't vote is the largest plurality and only the naive deny that their mission is any other than to support the corporate hegemony of the world with buying and selling as the most noble deeds of humankind. It is not just me who is becoming alienated in their own homeland and on their own planet.

Before we become mired in xenophobic simplemindedness, requiring us to continually find an acceptable country (or race) or good BADGUY whom we can fire on in the next justifiable war, we might reflect on what might be truly noble

Many Banners, One Slate



acts, what an honorable mission could be. To do this, new respect must be achieved or demanded for new ways of thinking (most of which are ancient in origin). "New" philosophies must have a piece of the stage. While the arts support new ways of thinking, it is my belief that

these new visions must find expression in political or economic leadership before a society will redirect its course to the extent of reassigning resource use or non-use to new ends and goals.

The vision does not have to be created. It does have to become focused. It does have to become energized. Talk to members of the Greens and other pro-environmental groups. Talk to those belonging to NOW and the Reproductive Rights Coalition. The Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace. Labor Unions. The physically disabled. Jews. Blacks. American Indians. Gays and Lesbians. TCRC members. Most will articulate a vision which any of the others would support. Candidates from these groups must run for office. Three of these groups have already tried and succeeded or are currently trying to attain party status at either the State or National level--the Greens, NOW, and Labor. At the national level, also, the New Alliance Party has established Dr. Lenora Fulani for President campaign as third in fund raising among current candidates. In addition, many know that talk of forming a party has been a dream of many Rainbow participants.

To create a progressive agenda, research issues, write a platform, and run candidates, we need not abandon our loyalties. Instead, the following four-part proposal is finding enthusiastic support. 1) Self-selected groups seek to achieve minor party status. 2) These and other

groups offer to be responsible for particular pieces of a shared platform within their realm of expertise. 3) Candidates run under the banner of their own group (\party). Locally for instance, NOW and Labor might each run a candidate for Legislative Representative from the 22nd; the Greens and TCRC, for County Commissioner. 4) The parties and groups combine efforts for publicity, fund raising, doorbelling, etc. to promote the unified platform and a single slate of candidates for a number of offices.

The parties and groups combine efforts for publicity, fund raising, doorbelling, etc. to promote the unified platform and a single slate of candidates for a number of offices.

Achieving minor party status is relatively easy in Washington State. A party declares that they are going to hold a convention. They hold it in a public place and gather the required number of signatures. With the number of local office seats open, i.e., no incumbent to challenge, 1992 would seem to be an opportune year to move toward a multiple party system.

There is a move to do something similar for statewide offices. (I would be happy to direct anyone interested in joining in this effort.) Others are seeking to establish the ability to allow mutual endorsements: one candidate could appear on the ballot more than once, a second stage to the plan described earlier. The process was called fusion and was legal in the early part of this century. Current law written to thwart third party movements allows a candidate to appear only once on the ballot. These efforts give me hope that we can open up the political playing field to a new game, one which would demand many parties engaged in an enlivened debate on the issues. After all, we are not buying toothpaste.

Downzoning The Westside

Matt Love

On January 21, the Olympia City Council considered the issue of downzoning the Westside center to "neighborhood retail" (appropriate to a residential area). The area is currently zoned "general commercial". Under the current zoning, the

tures on petitions that Diane Hoglund of the Friends of the Westside Center presented to the council. Alan Brisley, Alan Rose, Dave Baxter, owner of Rainy Day Records, and Scott Merriman, president of the Westside Neighborhood Association also spoke in support of a freeze.

The Council voted to hold a public hearing on an interim freeze for the geographical area . . . [It] would not affect anything already in process. . .

Center's owner, Harmen Verbrugge, a British Columbia businessman, can make major changes in the character and size of the Center, such as introducing a giant "magnet store" like Albertson's. Other plans for the area include a Jack-in-the-box restaurant on the site.

Disclosure of Verbrugge's plans created massive public outcry and mobilization in the Westside community. This concern was represented by the 2600 hundred signa-

The were also statements from the opposition. Dick Scott, a commercial property owner on the Westside stated that he is in opposition to downzoning. He was among the property owners who paid for the Local Improvement District street widening on Harrison Avenue ten years ago, and felt that downzoning would interfere with his ownership rights. Scott submitted a petition of his own, with 1 and

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Letters



WIP Stick to the Left

Dear WIP,

C'mon! The editorial breastbeating about the samurai cartoon was ludicrous! The cartoon was right on the mark! Japanese business is behaving like a sharkskin-suited shark and the samurai characterization does not overstate the issue one bit. This is not a case of the cartoonists belittling the Japanese people (their own social system performs that function more than adequately, thank you), but a segment of the society and their go-for-the-throat business and ecological practices.

What you, the homogenized and unnamed editorial presence, and Mr. Ginoza, pointedly avoid discussing is the truth or falseness of the image — which would certainly determine the correct evaluation of the cartoon. Are the Japanese in fact behaving like or even as, samurai? Only advocates of the cotton wool brand of liberalism would say no, and I expect you to do so in loud and politically correct unison.

I've always felt that the kneejerk and the "Heil Hitler!" salute were similar muscular spasms, neurologically speaking.

Keith

Editor: Dharma Combat
POB 20593
Sun Valley, NV 89433

DARE to Keep Drugs in Perspective

Dear Editors,

I am troubled by many of the statements Mr. Arney makes in his article, "DARE to Ask Questions About Drugs." (January, 1992).

Is it really Mr. Arney's contention that the solution to children's problems is for them to take drugs? I cannot see any sort of solution to their problems garnered from this let-them-take-drugs attitude.

I would wholeheartedly agree with Mr. Arney that a means of self-destruction should be decriminalized, if those bent on self-destruction did not incur any costs to the society as a whole. Unfortunately these individuals do not live in a vacuum. For example, the United States' experiments with cigarettes and alcohol have been utter and complete failures. The price paid for these goods and their overall economic benefits are far outweighed by the enormous amount paid out in health care and immeasurable social costs. Lives lost to drunken drivers, billions of dollars in lost productivity and wages, lung cancer, babies born with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, families broken and destroyed are just a few of the horrendous costs our society bears because of the legality of these self-destructive products.

Moreover, there is a world of difference between an adult taking drugs to "relax" and a child taking them to escape the horrors of urban life. There is also a vast difference between explaining why children take drugs (because they witness murders) and accepting this as a valid argument for drug use. I am deeply disturbed that the message Mr. Arney wants to send to poor black children is: your problems are insurmountable, take drugs and you will feel better. If the children of Washington D.C., or for that matter any other community plagued by drugs and violence, are to realize that their problems are not insurmountable, that they can control their own lives, the last thing they will want to do is become party of

the problem that is destroying their community.

Equally distressing is that Mr. Arney's suggestion seems aimed only at black children. All of the examples he presents in his article focus on children in Washington D.C. Many in the black community have long suspected that drugs are perpetrated by whites as a form of genocide against blacks. The examples in Mr. Arney's article center very little on his own son's white middle class life. Would he find it acceptable if his son's response to punishment was to go to his room and use drugs? What if he felt he has so little control of his life that he decided to commit suicide? Would his father help him?

Mr. Arney makes the classic mistake in blaming the police for the laws they enforce. The police only enforce the laws, they do not make them. The DARE program is an at-

tempt on their part to reduce their work load. It is also a noble attempt to help 5th and 6th grade students realize that maybe, just maybe, they can break the cycle of hopelessness and despair and work to gain control of their lives and the lives of those in their community.

Obviously the drug problem has much deeper social roots than are addressed in current drug education programs. It would be more productive if such issues were also addressed as part of a more comprehensive education program. The DARE curriculum is only the most basic step in what should be a far reaching and wide ranging critical pedagogy that empowers students. Solutions to social problems are most certainly not found in telling people that the best way to deal with their problems is to avoid them, they are found in helping them to learn who controls their life and why.

Sincerely, Jon Doherty

Samuri Background

Dear WIP Editors:

I would like to comment on the recent controversy regarding the allegedly racist cartoon of a samurai that so outraged a Japanese-American reader. Since I am a correspondent of one of the artists responsible for the offensive drawing, I may be accused of bias, but being on the other side of the country and having no emotional stake in the issue either way, I think I might offer a viewpoint that everyone else, in their frenzy, missed. Dave Zink asks for a "quickly-recognizable, non-offensive symbol to portray Japanese Imperialism: an equivalent of the Uncle Sam icon." Setting aside the objection that effective propaganda symbols, to work, must offend someone, and that the Uncle Sam icon is not inherently offensive (it certainly wasn't conceived that way), only becoming so when depicted with blood-dripping fangs, for example, this incident raises the question of what exactly is the common American perception of the samurai, and where does the preconception come from? I don't know, but it is ironic that the samurai symbol should now be deemed by you as inappropriate, because if anyone on your paper had the slightest familiarity with the role of the samurai in the history of Japan, you would realize that the samurai is indeed the very symbol you are looking for.

The samurai were the knights of feudal Japan, an elite class trained to be unquestioningly loyal to their lord, or *daimyo*. Absolute obedience was required from them, even to the point of taking their own lives upon command as a penalty for failure or causing displeasure. This is the famous *hara-kiri*, or *seppuku*, and the samurai were so inculcated with it as part of the *bushido* ("way of the warrior") that they didn't have to be told when to commit suicide, they knew. The samurai's primary role, besides protecting and extend-

ing the borders of their lord's domains was to uphold the rigid and repressive hierarchy of the Japanese class structure. They destroyed all opposing forces to the military dictatorships they served, such as the militant Buddhist monks (the *sohei*) and the radical peasant leagues (the *Ikko-Ikki*). They even had the actual right, if not the class duty, to kill anyone from a lower class who failed to show the proper deference to them. This was called *kirisute-gomen*, which stated: "Common people who behave unbecomingly to members of the military class or who show want of respect to direct or indirect vassals may be cut down on the spot." While not all samurai indulged this right, this was nothing less than a license to kill at whim. Imagine a modern American cop or soldier having the right to gun you down on the street because he didn't like the way you looked at him, or you failed to bow when you met him. It might be easier to understand the great emphasis put on often servile politeness in

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Works In Progress is a community newspaper sponsored by the Thurston County Rainbow Coalition. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Rainbow Coalition or the WIP Editorial Board and are solely those of the authors.

Keep those letters and cards coming. Correspondence and articles are always welcome. If possible submit articles on disk (WordPerfect). WIP reserves the right to publish in whole or part all submissions; so for editing purposes please enclose your phone number. Send submissions to Works in Progress, PO Box 295, Olympia, WA 98507.

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Samurai Pressures Overdone

Dear editors,

The pressures put on 'cat and Mat' because of a small, not very malicious seeming cartoon of a Samurai chopping down a rain forest seem over blown to me.

Mr. Ginoza begins by saying, "firstly, Japanese culture, as have all cultures not originating in Europe, has been systematically crushed in this nation."

The problem is, everybody's culture is getting crushed in ever nation by hammer blows which all of them are living through, and nobody is in a position to bow out of. That was the point of the article, wasn't it? The pressure on the Mitsubishi Corporation comes from the United States, for the defense of forests in Malaysian Borneo. Olympia, Washington takes on the Japanese power structure to protect trees? The idea would have been laughable in the 1950's. Today, like the Greenhouse Effect, nobody can bow out. Eventually, with or without protest, everyone will have to pay a price for the destruction of the rain forests, and Mitsubishi is just being shortsighted. Suicidally shortsighted, of course, but shortsighted. Does anyone doubt that the pol-

lution in Eastern Europe contributed to the downfall of the totalitarian states there? How long could Nicolae Ceausescu (SPELL?) stand on Romanian soil so poisoned nothing could grow there? Did Andropov or Leonid Brezhnev have the ability to even understand this, much less stop it? They were doomed by their own factories. They slowly poisoned themselves until the Berlin Wall broke like cardboard.

The pollution angle is just one part of it. Whole societies seemed to have been swallowed up by their television sets, the American one just being the most prominent. A lot is talked about the political "Bias" of the programming on television. Little is said about what the very act of spending four hours a day watching the thing does, and when it is said, it's bothersome in the extreme. People actually go through withdrawal symptoms when they quit watching television "cold turkey". Does it matter if its capitalist-controlled news shows, Oprah, "Wheel of Fortune" or Japanese Tea Ceremonies if people can't stop watching the box?

Japan today is usually considered a political and economic power

traditional Japanese culture if you know that you can have your head hacked off for being rude to the wrong person. And since only samurai were allowed to carry weapons, there wasn't much to stop them.

This came about after the shogun (dictator) Toyotomi Hideyoshi, issued a decree in 1583 stating that "The possession of...implements of war makes difficult the collection of taxes and dues and tends to foment uprisings." This ended attempts at mass uprisings, but the heimin, the lower classes, still fought back through use of such weaponless martial arts as karate, judo, etc. Many of these martial arts were developed originally to enable unarmed, and unarmored commoners to defend themselves, often successfully, against the armed and armored samurai.

It was this same Hideyoshi who initiated Japan's first overseas imperialist war when he attacked Korea in 1592. There was no reason for it other than his desire to conquer Korea, and then China. The Korean navy prevented that, however; delaying the next attempt for almost 400 years. Japan's introduction to modern western warfare tactics made the samurai redundant, and by the 1860's those who wouldn't surrender to the new order were massacred when they rebelled. However, the samurai myth died hard; Japanese officers in World War 2 carried and used samurai swords.

In short, the samurai were fanatic militarists, the loyal guardians of a reactionary system. It is hard to understand why Dennis Ginoza takes such offense at depicting them as less than angelic. Perhaps he is just over-sensitive to any perceived

slight to his ethnic background, perhaps he admired the samurai tradition (which would be odd for a leftist), or is descended from a samurai family; whatever the reason it is certainly not necessarily true that a negative depiction of a samurai is tantamount to condemning Japanese culture in toto. This is just ridiculous. Japanese culture has created and offered the world many things of beauty and integrity (zen, kabuki, haiku, geishas, ukiyo-e prints, bunraku puppets, gardens, manga...), all more worthy of respect than the samurai's fanatical devotion to destruction and authoritarianism. Military forces have often been a necessary evil in every nation's history, and Japan has held no monopoly on shameful, unnecessary aggression; but for Dennis to see a negative caricature of a samurai as somehow fascistic is as senseless as a white American committed to racial "solidarity" and "creating an egalitarian society" taking offense at cartoons that depict US Marines, Custer's cavalrymen, or General Schwarzkoff's Desert Stormtroopers as the personification of American evil and aggression. And I certainly doubt that WIP would flagellate itself with such a masochistic front-page apology if anyone did.

Sincerely, G. J. Krupey

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because of the decision in the 1860's to westernize Japan under the Meiji Emperor of 1867-1912. At that time, seeing China divided up into colonial "spheres of influence", it was decided to adopt the whole ball of wax: railroads, telegraph systems, steam ships, top hats and tails. It was simply realizing the obvious. The technology was inevitable, the only question was if it would come on terms favorable to the Japanese or favorable to the European Colonialists. Did they wreck their culture or preserve it? Probably both.

That was the question facing absolutely everyone in 1867, and still is today. Nobody can really stop the hundreds, thousands of things happening at once. Nobody can reverse the mass media, so they just fight for control it. Nobody can reverse the computer revolution, so the devote billions of yen or billions of dollars to developing a better one. No one can avoid the effects of pollution, but hopefully they can arrest the process long enough to prevent ecological disaster.

And against this background you are thinking that you should worry about one cartoon.

Sheesh!

Sincerely,
Bradley Kenneth Laing.

Be Positive

Dear Editor,
Stop it! Stop it! Stop it!

I can't believe you put an apology for a cartoon on the front page of your paper. The cartoon's offense was, at most, very minor, and almost certainly unintentional. But the real work of this paper is enormous. When you expend resources berating yourselves on the entire front page of your paper, you are actually wasting your opportunity to accomplish something positive.

We live in an incredibly brutal world. Our government is currently in the process of murdering 100,000s of Iraqis primarily because they happened to be in the way at the moment when our war machine needed a workout. Hundreds of thousands, possibly millions, of people wander our streets homeless while other people in this country pocket annual salaries in the tens of millions of dollars.

These are tragedies and it is worth our effort to form coalitions to fight this madness. It is not worth our effort to scream *mea culpa* on the front page because we unintentionally offended some very thin skinned readers.

The issue here is that we, as liber-

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als, have to stop this inane nitpicking over irrelevant offenses and start in once again on the real work. If someone's feelings get hurt accidentally, that's too bad. I mean it really is too bad. We should always strive to be gentle and loving. But we have to remember that we are living in a world where peasants, in say, El Salvador, get murdered by the tens of thousands simply because certain fat cats see their death as politically expedient. In the face of that kind of reality, we have to show a little back bone or we are never going to make any progress against our unscrupulous, blind and greedy opposition.

Also, its probably worth pointing out that effective political satire often comes replete with a rather sharp edge. If it didn't it wouldn't be able to perform its function. If we sterilize our speech to the point where it can no longer offend anyone, then it will also become so dull, vacuous and mind deadening that it can accomplish nothing. And in the mean time citizens of the third world die in meaningless wars and the members of the underclass die in meaningless poverty.

Let's get it together before it is altogether too late, Ok? We have real work to do.

Sincerely, Charlie Calvert

Letters Are Continued On Page Twelve

WIP Article submission deadline is Jan. 22

Also on that day, there will be a WIP meeting at SPEECH at 7pm. All are encouraged to attend and get involved. Call 956-9123 for info.

Katy Murray MSW, CCDCH

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Diversity Essential to WIP & Rainbow

To The Community:

Last month I wrote an open letter in which I expressed concerns about the lack of cultural diversity in our newspaper and within the Thurston County Rainbow Coalition. Since then, I've had the opportunity to speak with many community members who have shared their own impressions of my letter and the points I've raised.

The general consensus I've garnered from the people I talked with is that columnists provide a level of stability and readability within the paper. There is general agreement that the paper and the Rainbow should continue reaching out to those who are routinely oppressed by our dominant culture.

Some close friends have criticized my use of the phrase "exclusive heterosexual white boys club" to describe the paper's cultural demographics. I agree that the terminology was inflammatory. My intention in raising the issue was to ask the question, "what do we need to do in order to make the Rainbow Coalition and its newspaper more diverse and inclusive?"

I recently had an insightful conversation with a woman who attends Evergreen. She shared with me that she often sees an "elitist" attitude displayed in the paper. She was

concerned about the statement: "if you do not contribute, then there is no point in having this debate....the paper will stay status quo by default," because it doesn't acknowledge that the oppressed often feel unsafe about expressing their views to an unknown audience.

Another woman wrote us a letter which she asked that we not publish. In it, she discussed her experience with writing an article for WIP and being personally harassed and threatened afterward to the point of having to change her phone number.

I was impressed with both of these women. They helped me consciously understand that there is a price for publicly stating one's views. For those whom society oppresses, safety is an issue that is confronted every day. It is my hope that *Works in Progress* can be a safe forum for everybody to contribute.

Finally, it was pointed out to me that my statement "founding rainbow members and previous co-coordinators don't even participate anymore" is in error. Many founding members are still active within the organization.

In Solidarity, Tom Freeman, TCRC Co-coordinator and WIP Board Member.

Tom Freeman no Friend of Progressives?

Dear Editors:

As a paid subscriber, I am responding to Tom Freeman's January, 1992 Open Letter to the Community. First let me say, I find no fault with the distribution and number of columnists in WIP. Increasing diversity of opinion in the publication is a worthy goal, but Mr. Freeman's suggestion to eliminate columnists is a bad one. Furthermore, despite his administrative credentials, I find Mr. Freeman's ability to comment on progressive issues questionable. In my personal discussions with Mr. Freeman, I have found him to be an extremely conservative man.

In a conversation with me, He implied statements from the organization Feminists for Life should be repressed because they are widely available elsewhere. He said, "you can read that sort of crap in the Olympian." I have spoken with subscribers to the Olympian, and they are unfamiliar with the organization. I pressed him to become more specific about his comments, saying "give me a progressive justification for repressing a political opinion." He did not respond. I am rigorously pro-choice and have been for years, but as a supporter of the first amendment, I believe that their opinions should be more widely disseminated. It's not their position I agree with, but rather with their right to speak.

I have also found Mr. Freeman to be anti-progressive in his support

for Jolene Unsoeld, a person who supports the National Rifle Association and holds stock in Exxon. As an individual who has been threatened by self-described fascists who used lax gun laws to acquire weapons, I find Unsoeld's stance unprogressive. As a pedestrian, I find her ownership of Exxon Stock equally unprogressive. Freeman's support of this Congressperson with retrograde views is damaging to the progressive cause, whatever his credentials are. Mr. Freeman is free to speak in WIP, like anyone else, but his description of himself as a member of the progressive community is misleading, and I wish a front page apology. If I do not receive one, my subscription will lapse, and I will give my money to a publication which more clearly demonstrates progressive ideals.

Sincerely, Harold Lane

Freeman Responds

How interesting that you choose to attack me rather than critique the content of the open letter I wrote last month. Resorting to such a tactic is surely a sign that your argument is lacking. I've learned from years of painful experience to forbid others from placing labels on me or defining who I am. I am more than capable of doing that for myself. If I wanted to deny Feminists for Life their first amendment rights of free

An Open Letter to Patrick Hall Re: Affirmative Action

Dear Patrick,

Like yourself and many others, I've been keenly observing the black neoconservatives — Alan Keyes, Clarence Thomas, Shelby Steele. In fact, I just finished reading Shelby's book, *The Content of Our Character*, and now your letter of angst in *Works In Progress*. You don't seem to be as uncomfortable with your blackness as Shelby is with his; you just seem a little confused about things, and I'd like to help iron it out, brother to brother.

We do agree that 1) ideally, affirmative action means equal opportunity for everyone and 2) prejudices still thrive in America. Many people are racist, sexist or otherwise bigoted, and as a result won't employ the victims of their hate without government encouragement (unless it's an election year). Bigots would like to see affirmative action disappear because it represents opportunity — not guarantees, but opportunity — for you if you are not a wealthy male WASP.

And let's not fault affirmative action policies for the mistakes made by employers, whether public or private. If, as in your TESC Library case, policies are abused, it is the individual employer who is wrong — not the policies in themselves. It is up to the employer to find and hire qualified minority people. They are there, readily found, and they are Americans.

However uncomfortable it may be for the white residents of Peoria to hear, they — especially men — are indeed more privileged than others in this society. Wealthy, able bodied, heterosexual whitey males

expression, I would have insisted at an editorial board meeting that we not allow their letter to be published. My disagreement was with one of our board members actively soliciting their comments, given their attempts to control women's choices/women's bodies. It seemed out of step with the goals of the Rainbow Coalition and the progressive community.

I supported Jolene Unsoeld in 1988, 1990 and will again in 1992. On her very first day in Washington D.C., Jolene signed on to the national Lesbian/Gay Civil Rights bill, the first representative from our district to have done so. When Senators failed to seriously investigate charges of sexual harassment brought by Anita Hill against Clarence Thomas, Jolene joined a handful of other women representatives in crossing to the Senate chambers to demand they take action. I am not convinced that her support for gun ownership makes her "anti-progressive." In any case, I suggest you direct your disagreements about her position to her. That's how representative democracy is supposed to work.

are the arbiters of American society, and their less-wealthy brothers duly follow suit. You don't need me to tell you this, Patrick; you've known it as long as you've been living and black. White people have the privilege of never having to endure racism; white men never have to deal with sexism.

Patrick, neither you nor anyone else need feel "ambivalent" about your achievements. Let's remember who and where we are, okay? If you still have your job I can assure you it's because you're damned good at it, not because you're black. This is Reagan-Bush's America, after all.

If affirmative action really helps only those in a position to take advantage of it, then we need to get more people into position. It's our responsibility to help people help themselves, so they in turn can help others. That's how we got along — someone helped us. And this is where I disagree most with Shelby: he advocates individual initiative too much. Initiative is fine — it's just not enough sometimes. We also need to work together, collectively. A few prominent stars are not enough: everyone must have a decent share of success in our society. I'm glad for your family's success, Patrick, but there are many less fortunate families who need help.

Another thing: if brothers accuse you of "trying to be white," think about it. They're not saying that to offend, they say it because they're sad for you. They see brothers like you and Shelby and Bill Cosby with some success, smugly thinking that you've made it, so why can't anyone else? Things are better now, you think, and with some hard work they can make it too. It is the American myth: no matter who you are, if you just work your ass off you'll be successful. Brothers know better; they know this is just one more myth Whitey uses to control this society, and they're sad because they see you actually believing it. They're sad because they know you accept "values" that are dangerous: "law and order" (control of blacks via police), "family values" (sexism, religion, lack of sexual education) and others. They're sad because when you whine about doing away with affirmative action — since when have minorities, gays/lesbians, the different-abled or women been preferred over whites, straights, men, the able in America? — Whitey is happy because you're helping him do away with programs he never wanted in the first place. And the brothers are especially sad because they know your life can change in the flash of a police light, just like theirs.

So yes, we still need strong affirmative action policies. Without them, opportunity often just isn't there. Help us, Patrick, not Whitey. Get involved where you are. Volunteer some time, rap with the brothers coming up, study and share what you learn. Teach your kids. Don't be

Olympia Movement for Peace and Justice Wins TCRC MLK, Jr Award

The following is the presentation speech for the Thurston County Rainbow Coalition's second annual Martin Luther King, Jr Award.

Once a prominent American dared to stand up and call his own country "the greatest purveyor of violence in the world." He said that the poor people of another country were watching as we poisoned their water, that Americans were testing their latest weapons on real people just as the Germans tested new medicine and new tortures in the concentration camps of Europe.

The time was April 1967, the peasants under attack were the Vietnamese. The speaker was Martin Luther King Jr.

In that bold speech challenging what was deemed our national security, a great leader in the civil rights movement linked that movement in America with the peace movement.

In 1990 and in early 1991, it was no less true that the American nation was the greatest purveyor of violence in the world. It was time again for those who wished to change America's course to challenge our leaders with the same tactics that King had used: marches, pickets, protests--and, like King, to be willing to face abuse for following one's conscience, to be unafraid of being wrongfully jailed for doing right.

So it is fitting that on Martin Luther King Day, we in Olympia acknowledge the local peace movement that began to speak up

shortly after the August 1990 gulf involvement began, that expanded enormously as the January 1991 decision day grew nearer, and that continued to educate, to protest, to demonstrate as long as the delivery of death continued.

Many people and organizations

became a part of that movement. To represent all of them and to honor Dr. King, the Rainbow Coalition decided to present this to the Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace.

In keeping with the theme of Freedom, we honor the Olympia

TCRC Award Receives No Go

Editors' Note: At the December general membership meeting of the Thurston County Rainbow Coalition (TCRC) and after long debate, the Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace (formerly Olympia Anti-intervention Coalition) was selected as the recipient of the TCRC's 1992 Martin Luther King, Jr. award. The president of the Olympia Branch of the Tacoma Urban League was notified that the TCRC would like to present their award for the second year in a row at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration. Upon hearing the name of the recipient organization, permission was immediately denied.

The TCRC Planning Committee was concerned that their request had been given little consideration and handled in a way that might not have represented an accurate voice of the board of the Urban League. For that reason they decided to send a formal written request to the Urban League for reconsideration along with the text of the presentation speech.

The Urban League responded by letter denying the request.

TCRC's Letter

To the members of the Olympia Branch of the Tacoma Urban League, Inc.

The Olympia Rainbow Coalition looked forward to presenting our Martin Luther King award at the community celebration, sponsored by the Urban League, on January 20.

Our membership discussed several organizations which have made outstanding contributions to our community, before unanimously selecting the Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace for our award recipient this year.

In addition to the fact that Dr. King

was renowned as a man of peace, our members found it particularly ironic that the war in the Gulf was started on his birthday this past year. Dr. King never stepped back from political conflict or controversy in the pursuit of his humanitarian concerns for justice and peace. In his own words: "There is nothing, except a tragic death wish, to prevent us from reordering our priorities, so that the pursuit of peace will take precedence over the pursuit of war."

May we ask you to remember how consistently this man whom we all honor on his special day worked for freedom, justice and peace, when you evaluate the appropriateness of our award. We are including here the text of the

Movement for Justice and Peace, who seized freedom in their time to work for justice and peace.

It gives us great pleasure to present this award to Anna Schlecht on behalf of the Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace.



entire presentation that we hoped to make.

We would appreciate having a written response to our request to make this award. Thank you for your thoughtful reconsideration.

Urban League Response

The members of the Executive Committee of the Olympia Branch of the Tacoma Urban League, Inc., received your letter dated January 2, 1992. The letter focused on the presentation of an award for the Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace.

It is the decision of the board that the award presentation was not consistent with the goals and objectives of our Branch. Therefore, your request to make the presentation at the Martin Luther King Celebration is denied.

Sincerely,
The Board of Directors
Olympia Branch
Tacoma Urban League

Editors' Note: TCRC's Martin Luther King, Jr. Award will be presented at the TCRC Annual Meeting to be held at the First Christian Church in downtown Olympia on February 29th, 1-5 pm.

Give Peace A Chance

The following is a portion of a speech given last year by Reverend Jesse Jackson at the Peace Rally in Washington, D.C. during the Persian Gulf War

My brothers and sisters,

Violence begets violence, an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth will leave you blind ugly, disfigured and dead. There must be another way. If ancient enemies can sit together in South Africa, surely Iraqis and Kuwaitis, Palestinians, Israelis and Saudis can sit together.

... Dr. King put it this way, "We learn to live together as brothers and sisters or die apart as fools." John Lennon put it this way, "Give peace a chance." Elisiah put it this way, "Study war no more."

We must never give up hope. We must face the head winds and change them to tail winds, never give up hope. March for peace and register and vote. We must never give up hope. Choose peace over war, never give up hope. Choose negotiations over bombing and escalation, never give up hope. We must challenge these leaders who sit around the common table to have guided morality and not misguided missiles.

Save the children, save the earth. Give peace a chance.

like Shelby — when you see that black woman in the supermarket, talk with her. Get to know her and her family. Maybe you can come up with something good.

Racism was and is today the No. 1 problem facing black Americans. We don't like it, we're changing it, but right now it's a fact of life and death in America. We need strong affirmative action — as it is meant

to be, an opener to opportunity — and collective action to escape the abyss of poverty, crime, unemployment and prejudice. Thank God you're out, Patrick, but as long as some of us are still down here, none of us is truly free.

Live long and prosper,
Jerome Johnson
(Jerome Johnson is the host of *Up Front*, Wednesdays, 1 p.m. on KAOS.)

• Health Care • Unions • Choice • Party Politics •

AGENDA '92: THE PEOPLE SHALL SPEAK

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29th
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Thoughts Out Of School

What Do You Teach After The War Begins?

William Ray Arney

January 17, 1991. Five students show up for seminar today. Yesterday, in time for prime time on the east coast, a war started. "The liberation of Kuwait has begun," Marlin Fitzwater said with as much of a snarl as a seasoned news guy could manage. I was in the car on the way to hear Christopher Lasch talk at Elliott Bay Books in Seattle. Nancy had invited me. "Well, I wonder what he'll say now," she said as we listened to the bombs behind the voice-over on the radio.

Lasch didn't say anything. He didn't show. The folks at Elliott Bay weren't even apologetic. David, a friend who had come with another friend in a separate car, knew Lasch and asked after him. "He's staying in his hotel room. Called in to say he was really upset and wouldn't be coming. I told him about the demonstration that's going to be at the Federal Building at 8:00. You might catch him there." David and Nancy and Rudy and I went out for dinner. Fine pasta, good company, and serious talk (filled, as it had to be with this group, with many laughs).

Those five students in the seminar were very serious and without laughter the next day. Four on the far side of the table opposite me, the fifth to my right at the head of the table. "It's so depressing. What do you think?"—looking at me. More than any other day this year I was the center of the seminar even though I had avoided the head of the table.

"I really don't think much about it. I'm still bothered that Christopher Lasch didn't come to Elliott Bay last night and talk. I mean, really, here's this guy who writes a book on progress and here we are trying to progress through the Middle East and he's so depressed that he stays in his hotel and doesn't say anything. What's the world coming to when a smart guy like him doesn't have anything to say publicly at a time like this?"

Not the response they wanted.

"Now wait. We think it's important to talk about this war."

"Whatever you like. It's your seminar." A gambit I used often.

"No, it's important that you talk now. What do you think? I mean, when we're teachers and in situations like this, with a war starting and all, and the students come to class and they're upset, what do you think we should teach?"

"Math? History?"

Not the response they wanted.

"Math?! At a time like this. Look, Bill, there's a half a million troops over there. Men and women this time. Fathers and mothers. Just up the interstate there are huge military bases that only have the women and children and dogs and cats still

there. Some of the students in the schools we're in have their fathers—some of them have their mothers—over there. And you think we should teach math?"

"Or history. Or anything else that you might think it's important to teach."

"It's important to teach about this war."

"Then teach history. George Bush started this war by drawing that damn 'line in the sand' months ago. Right then—right at that moment!—you should have started teaching about how all those lines in the sand that we call 'national borders,' those lines that a whole lot of people are going to start

... you should have started teaching about how all those lines in the sand that we call 'national borders,' ... got drawn in the first place.

getting killed over, got drawn in the first place. Did you ever notice on a map just how straight those lines in the sand are? Do you think they follow the 'natural features' of that region? So George Bush talks about lines in the sand. Teach about lines in the sand.

"Or teach about math. How many people are there today? Half a million? And how many calories does each one need each day? How much food is that going to be over the next four weeks? How about the next four years? Bet you anything that the supermarkets all over Kuwait are going to shut right down once they hear that there's a war going on. How are the generals going to get all that food to all those folks? Teach about math. In fact, I heard just the other day that the Defense Department is recommending that each person drink something like eight quarts of water every day. How many Boeing 747s full of water is that going to be each day? Teach math."

"You've got to be serious for once. The children are going to come to school upset. You've got to deal with that."

"Where did your students learn to be upset?"

"From TV. From hearing their parents talk. It's upsetting. Look at our seminar. Only a third of the students came today. We're upset too."

"What is there to be upset about?"

"Bill..."

"I mean it. This war—this particular war; let's leave aside all the Middle East problems—started last summer. Remember, there was this State Department announcement about Iraq massing 30,000 troops on the Kuwait border. What happened? The stock market went down fifty points. The next day

the market came back and no one thought about it after it until Bush, 'after conferring with our allies,' starts sending half a million troops into that region. Then things go along pretty much as normal for the whole fall. People talk about how long this war is going to last once it starts, as if that is a normal thing to talk about. And all the news stations go over and tape these interviews with the troops saying how they're glad to be able to do their duty and how they wish they were home for the holidays, and everyone treats *that* like it's normal. But then the war starts and everyone sits in front of their television sets thinking that they are learning something about the war. Just doing what's normal. And now they get upset?! I can't believe that even a smart guy like Christopher Lasch is upset. When, in the normal course of events, you say that you're drawing a line in the sand and will go to war over it and then, normally and naturally, you send half

a million troops 10,000 miles away and you give them guns and other stuff that you normally give to people in the army, and then you conduct these normal training missions all over somebody else's sand, it seems only normal that you might expect a war to start. I don't see any reason to be upset about events just following their normal courses.

"But you have given me another idea for something to teach about. Why don't you teach children how easy it is to learn to be upset by watching worried adults or by listening to TV announcers who treat war as if it were a normal thing?"

"The children are worried in the schools. It seems to me that we have a responsibility to care for them."

"Perhaps. But you are paid to *teach* them. It's damned difficult to decide what to teach on any given day. Having a war start in prime time the night before when everyone's sitting around the dinner table makes that decision on this particular day a little more difficult, but it's the same decision I hope you'll make every day."

"Some schools are hiring psychologists part-time, to be 'on call' so that if a kid freaks out, there'll be some help."

"I know that most schools have too much money and that they make very bad decisions about how to spend it. I just hope that those of you in the poorer districts don't think that you have to be psychologists just because your school isn't hiring them for you. You're hardly trained to be a teacher yet; we haven't done anything to train you as a psychologist."

"But you don't have to be a psychologist to care for people."

"As teachers, I think you can care for students best by teaching them well."

"Is it possible to be a teacher at all in the schools?"

I'm afraid I laughed.

I had just finished giving a typically scathing critique of the schools in an undergraduate program typically titled "Meaning, Power and Learning" (or some permutation of those terms or terms like them). Some of the students had been irritated, some charmed, some puzzled. One of the puzzled ones came to me afterwards to ask this question: "Is it possible to be a teacher at all in the schools?"

"It's possible to be a teacher every nano-second of every day you are in the schools. From where would such a question ever come?"

"I read Illich and now I listen to you and the schools seem like such hopeless places. Who would ever want to teach there?"

My laughter, already on the wane, subsided entirely when I realized that once again I had failed as a teacher. This young man was, it seemed likely, headed for a career in teaching. He was sensitive and thoughtful, a little rebellious, probably concerned about improving society (and convinced it could be done). You could tell he was one of those students who had had one, maybe two, possibly (even though it was unlikely) three good teachers in the public schools. He had tasted good education, in the schools. He knew it was possible, but all the critiques of the schools he was reading and hearing had left him discouraged. He had listened closely to what I had to say and, if my talk had not been the final straw to push him toward a job in ecology or some such new venture outside the schools, the next one would. He was serious, so I had to be too.

"I hope that lots of people will want to teach—in the schools. The best teachers are often people who wonder why anyone would ever want to teach there. Don't forget: Illich is *not* opposed to education. (That *would be* a little silly, wouldn't it, given how obviously educated he is?) We laughed together this time. "Somewhere in *Deschooling Society* he says that the problem is not the value that people attach to education; rather it's *the institutionalization of values* that concerns him. It's not education that worries him; it's schooling. There's a difference. I think it's possible for education to occur, even in the schools. It would take some courage and a remarkable ability to keep your head clear in the face of the fog that schooling creates to go into teaching nowadays, but I hope that nothing I said will discourage you from it, if you're inclined that way."

He thanked me in a formal sort of way and walked away without tipping his hand concerning his plans. That poker face, I thought, will serve him well in the schools.

The problem teachers face, in the schools, is not whether they can be teachers. There are teachers—true educators—in the schools. Even if there was only one, it would be sufficient evidence that it is possible to be a teacher, even there. The problems arise only when teachers forget that they are teachers. When

Towards a Lasting Peace in El Salvador

Greg Bye

The 'Peace Accords', recently signed by representatives of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) and the Salvadoran government, promise not only to end the brutal civil war, but also "to transform El Salvador's political, social, and economic life." FMLN Commander Schafik Handal summarized the accords quite well when he said that "These agreements are going to transform the country. The army will be reformed, reduced, and the impunity of the military chiefs will be ended. There is going to be a great effort to achieve basic levels of Social Justice." This is truly an important victory, not only for the people of El Salvador, but also for those in the international Solidarity movement for peace with justice. Although the U.S. government's policy of militarily defeating the FMLN and the popular organizations has apparently failed, over \$1.6 million American tax dollars per day is still being sent to the Arena government—of this about 230,000 dollars per day is specifically earmarked as war-related (\$85 million dollars yearly). But if peace is to actually come about in El Salvador, direct aid to Arena will have to cease, in favor of multi-lateral channels, including those that would benefit the popular organizations. In a step towards achieving the goal men-

they become psychologists, surrogate parents, deputies of the local police force, mouthpieces of the government, safety experts, or adjudicators of the rules of extra-curricular life, they run into problems. They aren't trained to those tasks, and doing any one of them, even for one nano-second, takes time away from what a teacher actually can do in the schools--teaching.

One student teacher I know had an especially difficult class to which he was charged to teach Washington State history. His first quizzes and tests came back blank from some of the students. There seemed to be a hard core of eight students who could not or would not—in any event, did not—do any of the work he assigned. Then the requests for documentation started arriving from the counselors and the specialists and the remedialists entrenched in their offices around the school. Everyone, it seemed, wanted some information, if you please, on just those eight students. Instead of completing the forms as requested, he went looking for the form senders.

"Why these eight?"

"They're all special ed. or on watch for it," said the remedialists. "She gets beat up by her father if she gets lower than a B," said the psychologist. "He's next on the list for reading enhancement," said the specialist.

"Why didn't you tell me?"

"Didn't want to stigmatize them in your mind. Wanted to give them a chance in your class first."

tioned above, Seattle CISPES, along with others in the Central American solidarity movement, has been working to persuade the members of Washington State's congressional delegation to support the McDermott/Adams bills (H.R. 1346/S.601) which would cut 100% of the war-related aid to El Salvador (\$85 million per year). As of January 20th, besides McDermott and Adams, only Representatives Jolene Unsoeld and Al Swift have an-

But if peace is to actually come about in El Salvador, direct aid to Arena will have to cease, in favor of multi-lateral channels, including those that would benefit the popular organizations.

nounced their support. But there is still time to encourage the remaining 6 representatives to do likewise. Below is a list of the Washington delegation, with appropriate addresses and telephone numbers. You the readers are urged to generate calls and letters to the 6 undecided demanding that they support the Adams and McDermott bills. (You may also wish to call Adams, McDermott, Unsoeld and Swift giving them your strong approval.

BE PRACTICAL DO THE (seemingly) IMPOSSIBLE

To re-iterate the McDermott/Adams bills are but one step towards bringing about a lasting peace with Justice in El Salvador (and else-

"Great. So I've been trying to teach these kids for five weeks and you knew that they were going to have problems learning anything from me and you didn't tell me, much less help me. Is that right?"

"Uhhh..."

It's easy to complain about all the programs for special ed. and special help and psychological assistance and this and that in the schools nowadays. This student teacher knew all those critiques, but he had a wonderfully naive and productively literal view of them: If there are these specialists and remedialists and psychologists peppered around the school, then they should do their jobs. So that he could do his job, which he knew to be teaching. He was willing to do his part, even to fill out all the forms; but he expected to be allowed, then, to teach. He is a man who will never forget that he is a teacher, no matter how much the schools try to get him to think or behave otherwise. The toughest problem in the schools is not being a teacher; the toughest problem is not forgetting that you are one.

I was very pleased that those five students came to seminar the day after last year's war started. They helped me remember what I am paid to do.

And I'm still bothered that Christopher Lasch forgot, at least for that evening, that he's a teacher too. It's a bad sign for our times when learned people find reasons not to talk about what they know.

where...) . But to keep El Salvador from being returned to the "Central American Mode", the American Solidarity Movement must continue to relentlessly pressure the U.S. government to modify its foreign policy until we have one that actually contributes to the welfare of humans. This will be quite a change from present foreign policy decisions, which are concerned with "improving the climate for human business operators and guarantee-

ing the opportunities to exploit human and natural resources," in the words of Chomsky.

Obviously, a change in U.S. foreign policy of this magnitude would positively affect more than El Salvador... And, as can be imagined it will be quite difficult to achieve. But the alternative, the "New World Order" is the continuing exploitation and misery of the 3rd world for the benefit of the industrialized nations, with the United States in the role as the Globo-Cop for hire.

For those of you interested in finding out more about the present situation in El Salvador, I recommend checking with some of the local peace and justice organizations. For instance, OMJF, EPIC and CAAC. Washington State congressional delegation can be reached at these addresses and telephone numbers:

* Sen. Brock Adams
513 Hart Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510
(202) 224-2641
Local #: (206) 553-5545

Sen. Slade Gorton
730 Hart Senate Bldg.

Washington, D.C. 20510
(202) 224-3441
Local #: (206) 553-0350
FAX in D.C.: (202) 224-3441

Rep. Tom Foley
speaker of the House
1201 Longworth House office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-2006
Local #: (509) 353-2155

Rep. Rod Chandler
216 Cannon House Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-7761
Local #: (206) 553-0116
FAX in Wash. D.C. (202) 225-7761

Rep. Norm Dicks
2429 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-5916
Local #: (206) 593-6536

*Rep. Jim McDermott
1707 Longworth House Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-3106
Local #: (206) 553-7170

Rep. John Miller
322 Cannon House Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-6311
Local #: (206) 672-4224
FAX #: (206) 553-0116

Rep. Sid Morrison
1434 Longworth House Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-5816
Local #: (509) 575-5891

*Rep. Al Swift
1502 Longworth House Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-2605
Local #: (206) 252-3188

*Rep. Jolene Unsoeld
1508 Longworth House Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-3536
Local #: (206) 753-9528
*denotes already sponsors bill



The Prince of Tides: Almost a tidal wave

Larene Dell

Seeming to boldly move through adult recovery, the story unfolds painful memories of a dreadful childhood, remembered by Nolte's well-played character in hopes of helping his suicidal twin sister.

For an hour or more the sense of unlocked secret memory in the film is dauntless as Nolte slowly unwinds his character's childhood trauma from his unconscious mind. Nolte's memories surface almost like intruders that disrupt usual thought patterns and disturb everything. The childhood memories demand attention. And that is exactly what needs to happen to allow healing to take place.

For anyone who is facing unconscious monsters, this film can be in-

sister who, like so many children are able to survive an abusive family life and the attendant insidious family silence only to find themselves as adults unable to manage their complicated lives. Trauma can be hidden by the mind in order to keep an abused child alive, and then drug use, major depression and suicidal behavior are created to keep the trauma from surfacing later, driving the source of the adult child's memories even deeper. In the film the family trauma is blatant and extremely violent which is shocking to watch and which hopefully doesn't lead the viewer to think that his or her more subtle trauma is less damaging. Dependent on the child's age during abuse, who is abusing, and whether



curity and terror of her Child life is dealt with. The sister needs her brother to help save her from the abyss of not knowing—to allow the pain of silent child terror to scream and therefore release its death grip.

The film is unfailing in presenting the multitude of effects of childhood trauma. These point to the less known effects of abuse that drive survival instincts or death wishes to shape young personalities. And who knows what happened to Streisand's character as a growing child to lead her into an abusive marriage and into perhaps unsatisfactory motherhood. It is a relief to see an imperfect

psychiatrist on screen, one who is also seeking healing. But no one gets quite enough in-depth in *The Prince of Tides*. More interaction between brother and sister and More public information on trauma recovery should have been developed. The ending grace of Nolte's reunion with his family is helpful because it shows that healing can happen. But the statement that everything that happens in a family is forgivable is not helpful and not exactly true. Some people find that parts of their traumatic pasts warrant cautious acceptance at best while other parts may become forgivable with a lot of work. In this case to forgive is not to forget. To forget would only recreate the original setup for fear, life-long depression.

Larene Dell, ND is a licensed Naturopath practicing traditional, natural medicine and counseling. Her office is in West Olympia and you can reach her at 943-9524.

Trauma can be hidden by the mind in order to keep an abused child alive, and then drug use, major depression and suicidal behavior are created to keep the trauma from surfacing later, driving the source of the adult child's memories even deeper

tensely profound. At least until the love story takes over. After Nolte's catharsis with his sister's psychiatrist (Streisand), an unfortunately common loss of therapist/patient boundaries occurs and the meager plot of a love affair takes precedence. The eventual boundary crossing of sexual relations between therapist and patient, especially taking place in the sister's bedroom, is a rather poor depiction of professional ethics. And it is only marginally interesting in lieu of what could have been a powerful portrayal of brother and sister healing. A brother and

there are any safe adults nearby, traumatic memories can be totally or partially blocked or cloudy or can be consciously maintained. Until the mind is satisfied with its healing process and the individual is satisfied with his or her emotional life traumatic memories do tend to intrude -- while awake as well as in dreams. In *The Prince of Tides* Nolte's character's memories come rapidly over what seems like a few weeks or months, and as is common they are preceded by a personal and family crisis. He is ready for his life to change. And his sister cannot imagine living until the intense inse-

Book Review: Women and Other Aliens

Paul Ortiz

The escalating war of big business and government against labor has created, in the words of the America Friends Service Committee (AFSC), "The Global Factory." Workers from Canada to El Salvador to South Korea are fighting pitched battle to protect themselves against a voracious capitalism that scoffs at health care, social welfare, and worker's rights. Even liberals have joined the fray against labor. The growing number of non-profit peace, environmental and other advocacy organizations that trample over their worker's rights is staggering. In the last issue of WIP Greg Bye noted that Sane/Freeze in Seattle initiated unfair pay cuts and hiring practices telling their workers "If you don't like it...then quit." Scurrilous advice during a recession.

In *Women and Other Aliens*, Debbie Nathan explores the lives of women who similarly cannot "quit," because they have no alternatives. They are women from the border

regions of El Paso, Texas and Juarez, Mexico. They are factory operatives like Renya, who makes 40 cents an hour. They are maids like Maria del Refugio Gonzalez Vasquez who had her night off cancelled by trendy, liberal employers. They are working class Mexican women who are forced to resort to degrading and dangerous secret abortion procedures because their government, like ours, has been drifting starboard for many years and women's rights both in the workplace and in private have eroded precipitously.

In fact, Debbie Nathan suggests that the border region between the US and Mexico, far from being exotic or unique, seems to be on the cutting edge of capitalist societal change. Nathan notes that "more and more, late 20th century capitalism everywhere is basing its survival and growth on making people work for long hours at rock bottom wages without unions or occupational safety or decent housing or environmental controls — in other words, violating tenets of human decency and dignity whose enactment into reality and statute was



"JFK": Truth or Dare.

Charlie Calvert

The US media establishment has waged a long pitched battle against the Washington Post. Writer George Lardner Jr., "obtained a stolen copy of the JFK script before the film even began shooting." In a May 19, 1991 Post article Lardner proceeded to attack the film as "nonsense". Talk about preconceived ideas!

Newsweek at least had the grace to wait another five months until the film was in the cutting room before they attacked it on the cover of their

The conservative press wouldn't have put so much energy into their smear job if they weren't finally actually scared about something a liberal was saying.

magazine. Many other newspapers, magazines, and TV shows proceeded to follow in lockstep behind these critics. And like Lardner and some of the *Newsweek* writers, many of these critics had not yet seen the film!

What is it about *JFK* that makes

conservatives so angry? Could it be some folks don't want to hear about a film that treats the CIA as a cancer eating away at the heart of our country, at the soul of Turtle Island? Was it hard for them to hear that it is simply impossible for us to have a country "for the people, by the people and of the people" so long as top secret, uncontrollable, elitist organizations like the CIA exist?

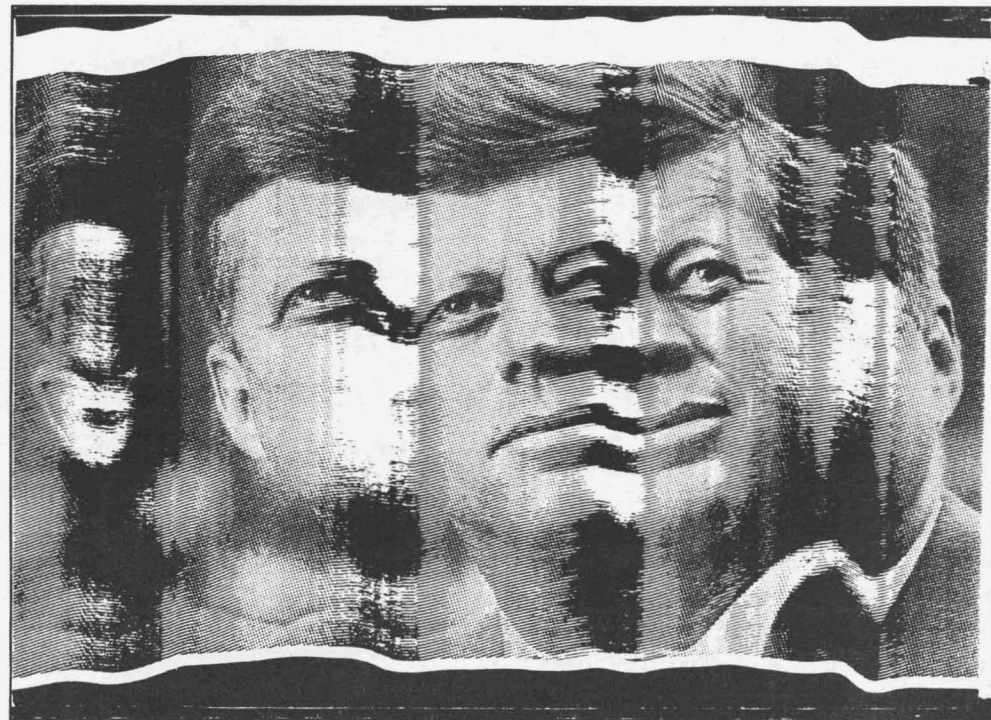
Not that I'm complaining. Frankly, there is no way I can conceal the joy that the media circus brought me. The conservative press wouldn't have put so much energy into their smear job if they weren't finally actually scared about something a liberal was saying. We don't get many opportunities to shake up the bland, gray suited, government bureaucracy these days.

In fact, the conservatives successful censorship of the Gulf War was such a horrifying success that I'd begun to lose faith in the tattered remnants of America's much vaunted heritage of free speech. But here, suddenly, was one guy, Oliver Stone, with the guts and the power to come forward and put our decadent establishment in the hot seat, at least for a few months. And incredibly, even in this age of Reagan and Bush, his efforts have paid off.

The government's official description of the Kennedy assassination has always been The Warren Report and the famous "lone assas-

sin theory". But Stone has finally laid that moribund tome to rest. After the film's release, the best seller lists contained not one, not two, but three books attacking the theory that Oswald alone shot President Kennedy with a Mannlicher-Carcano bolt action rifle.

The icing on the cake here is that Stone manages to put forth the at least plausible, if not necessarily convincing, theory that the CIA and other secret government organizations were actually behind the as-



sassination. Stone claims that their motivation was that they believed Kennedy was going to pull our troops out of Vietnam.

The key point here is not whether Stone is correct, but that it is almost impossible to test the verisimilitude of his theory. Enough evidence leads

to the CIA's door to justify an investigation. But lo and behold, the CIA, and other organizations of its ilk, are virtually beyond reproach! They don't live in the same country as the average American.

Anyone who has been brave enough to remain a liberal throughout this age of Reagan and Bush owes it to themselves to go see this film. Radical politics are in disarray these days, but here is one liberal who has successfully struck a powerful blow for the left. Stone, always an excellent

director, has surpassed himself in this fine film which lays bare the hypocrisy of modern day conservative politicians who claim they believe in freedom while continuing to promote the existence of the CIA and other mind deadening establishments.

part of the historical project of the past century." Perhaps the present struggle of women garment workers in El Paso is linked to the struggle of Hyundai factory workers in South Korea and canvassers at Sane/Freeze.

El Paso have found that the INS has become yet another routine tool of employers seeking to crush worker's rights.

Debbie Nathan's wide-ranging book also discusses the INS crusade

Debbie Nathan focuses on women on la frontera because "in exploring the edges of uneasiness that bond such issues as immigration, family and gender—role changes, I've been struck by how often this culture's worries about social change get displaced into phobias about female sexuality."

Debbie Nathan focuses on women on la frontera because "in exploring the edges of uneasiness that bond such issues as immigration, family and gender—role changes, I've been struck by how often this culture's worries about social change get displaced into phobias about female sexuality." Nathan explores the politics and interrelationship of abortion, immigration, and work.

Nathan's focus arises also because an increasing amount of undocumented workers who come to the US from Mexico are women. Many of these working-class women enter the US only to "end up at the bottom of the capitalist heap" because savage US immigration laws allow unscrupulous employers to turn them into the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) for incarceration and/or deportation if they speak out against unfair working conditions or try to unionize. Indeed, labor Activists in Los Angeles, San Antonio, and

to deport radical feminist poet Margaret Randall, and the allegations of ritual sex abuse in an El Paso daycare center.

My only criticism of this exceptional book is that Nathan omits references to women's labor groups in border areas that are organizing in an attempt to promote women's leadership and workplace justice. This is puzzling because Nathan has written brilliantly elsewhere on the subject. Despite this omission, *Women and Other Aliens* remains a

critical starting point for understanding the crushing conditions that women are facing on the border.

As a supplement to Nathan's fine work, I would suggest that interested readers and labor activists read *The Global Factory* published by the AFSC. This book discusses groups such as the AFSC's Women and Global Corporation project and El Paso's heroic organization *La Mujer Obrera* (The Woman Worker). Women garment workers in *La Mujer Obrera* are waging hunger strikes, building cooperatives and expanding educational opportunities for working women on La Frontera. Their efforts are desperately in need of outside support from other workers, and the stakes, as Nathan notes in *Women and Other Aliens*, are high. Cecilia Rodriguez, director of *La Mujer Obrera* laments that "The economic devasta-

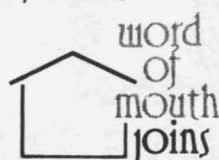
tion of our communities cannot be described, it is like living after a war."

And it is a war that people in the Pacific Northwest are increasingly being forced to fight as well. From Washington State farm workers attempting to win collective bargaining rights, to locked out Seattle teamsters (locals 117 and 174), we must build solidarity within the labor and civil rights movements before capital buries us alive. Towards this end, we owe our sister and brother workers in El Paso, South Korea, Poland, El Salvador, and elsewhere our unflinching solidarity. Because as Debbie Nathan points out in *Women and Other Aliens*, the international war against labor is intensifying, and we must build alliances across borders to survive.

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NWO, GATT'S GOTTA GO

Compiled and edited by
Lon Freeman

THE NWO

The decentering of the United States as the dominant world economic power coincides with the emergence of a multi-polar world of plural economic powers, and with the demise of Stalinist totalitarianism. However, the increasing technological sophistication of the U.S. military apparatus and its accom-

sified commodity production for expanded international trade, and which manipulates mass communication media through speech acts and image making designed to garner domestic support for the program; 4) the creation of a discursive climate, through policy and juridical transformation, which fosters a reinvigorated xenophobia, and the accompanying spate of hate crimes.

The situation is not as Orwellian as originally forecast, but the shrinking of a critical public arena and the distortions in official language are trends which are discon-

... a New World Order is characterized by several distinguishing trademarks... the readiness to employ the discourse of war, through a kinder, gentler jingoism...

panying military organization for force projection, still exerts a transparent, global supremacy. This dangerous combination has yielded an official reaction which proclaims the NWO (New World Order).

Aside from the unfortunate reference to the National Socialist era in Germany, the Bush push toward a New World Order (NWO) is characterized by several distinguishing trademarks in our own context. Among them are: 1) the effort to re-establish U.S. based, multinational corporate hegemony in an increasingly globalized market economy, primarily through the penetration of vast, untapped markets of commodity exchange; 2) the readiness to employ the discourse of war, through a kinder, gentler jingoism, and the projection of actual military force to ensure post-colonial market receptivity and resource extraction on the part of recalcitrant governments; 3) the internal political transformation of the liberal, democratic state to a super-industrial state apparatus which coordinates inten-

certing. The pressures to accept these circumstances as commonplaces today are considerable, all being subsumed as necessary concomitants to economic imperatives. The disruptions and suffering evident in the global political-economy evoke both fear and hopefulness in us. I feel both more apprehensive and more anticipatory for the ambiguity of transformative change in the U.S.

Anyhow, the sinking U.S. economy in conjunction with other global upheaval has brought us the Uruguay Round of GATT and the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) as a framework defining the contours of the New World Order! But it is not a fait accompli as yet!

WHAT IS GATT?

Created after World War II, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) was established in 1948 largely under the initiative of the U.S. The U.S. envisaged the establishment of an international trade

organization within the UN system as the logical complement to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank. Approximately every seven years, the agreements are renegotiated in what are called Rounds. Until the current round, called the Uruguay Round (which typically meets in Geneva, Switzerland), the agreements regulated tariffs and import quotas. With rare exceptions, GATT meetings are held behind closed doors, without the presence of media or public interest groups. However, major transnational corporations are often present as advisors. All GATT documents are "restricted" except when there are specific decisions to be made public. These special rules make it easier to forge and strike deals before interested publics are aware of what is happening.

The current Uruguay Round began in 1986. The Uruguay Round is the most complicated of any post-war multilateral negotiation and goes far beyond the earlier seven

rounds, which sought to promote world trade mainly through tariff cuts. The Uruguay Round expands GATT to take on trade not only in goods but also in services, intellectual property rights, investment, and agriculture. It also includes a section addressing "non-tariff barriers to trade".

The non-tariff barriers to trade section includes a provision to "globally harmonize" environmental standards, occupational safety and health standards, consumer safety standards (including pesticide residues food standards), worker's rights, and trade related human rights issues. It is sweeping in its intent to circumscribe so many areas of legislation formerly thought to be matters of national sovereignty. It would not be such an affront to the sensibilities of progressive struggle if the statutes and standards were being negotiated toward greater protection for people and the Earth; global accords in this light could be valuable. Instead, the standards are

Senator West Objects to Dan Leahy's July 1991 WiP Free Trade Article

To: All Senators plus Reps. Gary Locke, Brian Ebersole, and Jean Silver

From: Senator James West

RE: Evergreen State College Labor Center and the enclosed article

This article was in a publication mailed to me by the local teachers union.

I can't believe we're paying this guy to foster good will and encourage better relations between labor

shouldn't be funding it.

January 10, 1992

Dear Community Members,

We thought you should see Senator James West's letter, dated December 14, 1991.

Senator West writes, "I don't mind political debate and I believe in academic freedom." However, when

I can't believe we're paying this guy to foster good will and encourage better relations between labor and management... Or maybe the labor center isn't really what we've been lead to believe and maybe, just maybe, we shouldn't be funding it.

and management. As you can see in the enclosed article he sure has a peculiar way of developing good relations. His childish snipes go a long way toward fostering good relations I'm sure.

I don't mind political debate and I believe in academic freedom but perhaps this person doesn't understand the purpose of the labor center (or maybe I've been misled). Maybe he isn't the right guy to head it up. Or maybe the labor center isn't really what we've been lead to believe and maybe, just maybe, we

Dan Leahy critiques the proposed free trade agreement with Mexico, the Senator threatens his job and funding for the Labor Center.

We believe people have a right to voice their opinion without having their job threatened. We also believe institutions which promote debate and intellectual freedom should be funded. We are proud of the Center's programs which have always fostered debate and promoted open discussion on controversial subjects.

Senator West also wants the Labor Center to "foster good will and

Join the AFSCME/WFSE Legislative Lobby Day & Rally

Friday, February 21, 1992

9:30-10:30 Check in GA Bldg - 1st Flr Auditorium.

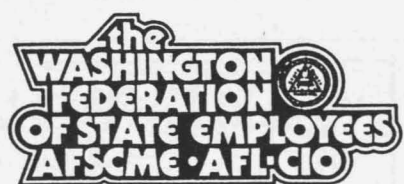
10:30 & 11:15 Briefing by WFSE/AFSCME Staff.

11:15-11:45 Lunch

12:15-1 Rally on the Capitol Steps

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being negotiated toward more lax implementation, in order to promote more intensive commodity production and transnational trade.

WHAT WE CAN DO

The proposed GATT agreements, which are negotiated by the trade representatives of the many countries (Carla Hills in the U.S.) are passed by Congress and signed by the President. There are many meetings and opportunities to express your views in the Puget Sound region. Contact Andrea Durbin of Friends Of The Earth in Seattle at (206)633-1661, or Roger Yockey of the Solidarity Network in Seattle at (206)483-1258, or Beth Burrows of the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy in Seattle at (206)775-5383. There have been protests and rallies to let the trade reps hear of our concerns. Also, in this presidential election year, there has been a Congressional Resolution which is being taken up to counter the proposed diminution of our hard won struggles for protection of human rights and the environment. Support House Concurrent Resolution #246, known as the Waxman-Gephardt resolution.

Credit and thanks go to the Environmental News Network (1442 A Walnut Street, #81, Berkeley, CA 94709) for compiled information on the GATT, and to Beth Burrows in Seattle for transmitting the information.

encourage better relations between labor and management." As an educational institution, the Center rightfully leaves the question of whether and how labor should relate to management in the hands of labor.

All of us on this Advisory Committee were appointed by Interim President Les Purce to advise the Center's Director about the Center's programs and policies.

We are advising Dan Leahy, Helen Lee, staff and students to continue their excellent work on the proposed free trade agreements and we hope you will join us in protecting the Center's ability to foster political debate and academic freedom for both workers and students.

Please call or write either of us or any Advisory Committee member if you have concerns about the Center.

Solidarity,
Elmer Laulainen Chair
Trina Dempsey Vice Chair
Labor Center Advisory Committee



Ron Jacobs

On my way to work one morning, I spied a business card tacked to a telephone pole. Then another. And another. I removed one and read it. It asked, "Do You Believe in Equal

We need to challenge racist beliefs wherever we find them...

Rights for Whites?" I read on and discovered the cards were from David Duke's organization, the National Association for the Advancement of White People (NAAWP). Included on the cards were an 800 phone number and a series of questions concerning welfare recipients, Jews, and other scapegoats of the right.

On a local computer bulletin board there is a man who uses academic language to question the humanity of black people. With his pseudo-scientific claptrap, he not only questions Black people's humanity, he also tries to prove that other non-white peoples, and Jews, are responsible for the destruction of something he calls "Christian civilization".

There is a tunnel which runs underneath south central Olympia. Its western end begins south of the Governor House hotel and its eastern end is near the corner of 7th and Adams. Occasionally, a small freight train travels the tracks which run along the floor of the tunnel. More often, the dark space is the scene of drinking parties and a temporary haven for Olympia's homeless. The only permanent residents seem to be

Today Olympia, Tomorrow the World!

the hundreds of rats.

In early January, 1992, an African-American man was attacked by a group of white youths wielding an aluminum baseball bat as he crossed the railroad tracks approximately 200 feet from the eastern end of the tunnel. As the attackers jumped him, they yelled "nigger" and a variety of other racist epithets. Three young men were arrested for the attack. At first, local papers quoted police statements which labelled the incident "racial". Within days, however, the police backed off from their statements.

A similar scenario occurred in Seattle where another African-American man was attacked by a group of white youths after he

similar to Duke's and not even be challenged on grounds of racism by the mainstream press.

Scrawled all over the east end of the aforementioned tunnel is a large amount of graffiti. Some of it is harmless love pledges, some of it street signatures. The rest of it, and the truly chilling, is a collection of Nazi swastikas, death threats to non-whites - both individuals and as a group, and a variety of references to the superiority of the Aryan nation. It is beyond my comprehension how this graffiti, and its proximity to the location of the January attack, could not be somehow connected. One can only wonder if the police investigating the crime are politically aligned with the ideas of the racist movements or the laws concerning hate crimes are written in a way which makes them almost impossible to prove. Or both.

Friends of mine active in anti-racist organizing throughout the Northwest tell me that Olympia has been targeted for the past couple of years by skinheads and other racist groups. The *Olympian* has even run a couple of articles quoting police and other sources regarding this recruitment effort. Unfortunately, in a political climate where the only difference between the David Dukes and the George Bushes is which secret society they "used" to belong to, it is difficult to expect young people searching for an answer to their situation to go beyond the ready racism that mainstream politics provides. Whether those politics scapegoat affirmative action laws, welfare recipients, or the Japanese, they depend on the existence of racism to succeed. Indeed, they encourage the existence of racism to succeed.

While it is important for us to constantly challenge these politicians and their statements, it is dangerous for us to count on the system and its laws to rid our country of racism when the lawmakers themselves hold such attitudes. We need to challenge racist beliefs wherever we find them and expose those who would preach them.



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"Loving oneself in Olympia"
Sept. 21, 1987, CPJ



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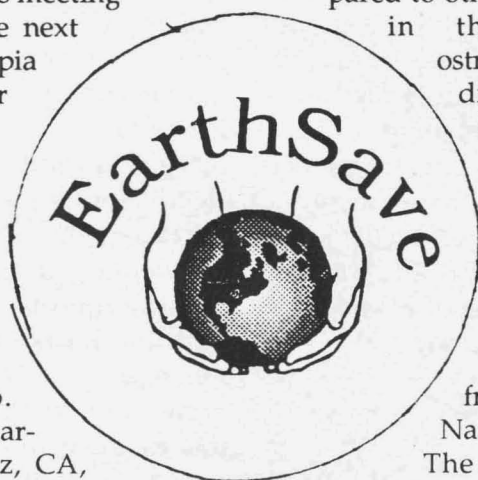
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Earthsave Olympia's First Meeting Is A Success

Dan O'Flaherty

Olympia's own Local Action Group for Earthsave is off and running. Over thirty people showed up for the first meeting and it's obvious this group will be a success. The group already has outgrown the Red Apple Natural Foods meeting area and will move next month to the Olympia Community Center #201 7p.m. on Feb. 17th.

Every age group was represented (15-70) and they were all anxious to hear the great things in store for this group. Earthsave is headquartered in Santa Cruz, CA, (President John Robbins is of Baskin & Robbins Fame) and it teaches people about the detrimental impact large scale animal agriculture has on both the environment and human health. The video Diet for a New America" was shown (and will be shown at the end of every meeting). The group was amazed to



see the startling facts, the tremendous amounts of grains and water used to produce animal products, the tremendous and appalling animal cruelty issues. The facts behind the Four Basic Food Groups (two of the four are bought and paid for by the industry's themselves). The facts about high protein consumption in this country compared to other countries (and

in those countries osteoporosis and heart disease are rarely heard of). If you are not aware of these issues then come to the next meeting and watch the video or borrow one for no charge from the Red Apple Natural Foods.

The same questions that are asked by many were asked again at the meeting: But where do I get my protein? Where do I get calcium? Will I be healthy if I don't eat meat? What can I eat? All these questions are answered. If your curious about what to eat then the Earthsave Olympia's meetings are for you.

The meetings from here on out will

Check That Packaging Before You Buy

Rita R. Robison

If you look through your dumpster at work, check out the local landfill, or sort through your own garbage cans, you'll find that packaging accounts for a large amount of the garbage you'll find.

While recycling has made a dent in cutting down on what gets into the "waste stream," more needs to be done by every-day consumers as they buy, buy, buy.

It's time for consumers to scrutinize the packages of the products they purchase and think about whether the packaging is good for the environment. For example, do

you buy deodorant in a plastic container that's packaged in a cardboard box? How about convenience foods? Do you buy juice in a "milk" carton in the refrigerator case?

Lois Harbaugh will show examples of good and bad packaging at a presentation, "A Look at Packaging from an Ecological Point of View." Her demonstration will be at 7 p.m. Feb. 11 in Rooms 101 and 102 of the Olympia Community Center, 222 N. Columbia. Harbaugh has conducted in-store surveys of juice and rice packaging. She founded A Round Home, a consumer-environmental group based in Bellevue, which uses a symbol of the earth as its logo. Harbaugh began her work after deciding consumers need to take action on packaging decisions to reduce garbage.

A Round Home found at an indicator store, a store with a wide variety of products, 110 choices of rice that included different brands, flavors, packaging styles and sizes. On juice, she found 323 supermarket choices including 86 flavors and 34 types of packages.

Harbaugh believes it's time to evaluate whether packaging is harmful to the environment. People need to scrutinize packaging at the beginning of the process with packages in the store, not at the end of the consumer process when it's garbage.

"We need to alter the public conscience and create a conversation about this stuff (packaging)," she says.

The packaging meeting is sponsored by the Waste Reduction Subcommittee of Olympia's Solid Waste Advisory Committee.

For further details call Rita R. Robison at 754-9651.

be Pot Lucks. You bring your own favorite dish (be sure to list ingredients) in a recyclable container (bring your own utensils too) and you can not only share your food but also share everyone else's favorite dish. Plus, we will be discussing the formation of Vegetarian Cooking Classes.

Other items discussed were: The YES tour coming in May; Utilizing TCTV; promoting recycling; school lunch programs; Booths at Super

The Link Between Feminism and Abortion

Dear Editors,

Ms. Frederica Mathewes-Green, Feminists for Life from Ellicott City, Maryland, tries to put forward a distorted vision of feminism, women's right to reproductive freedom, and the safety of illegal abortion.

Her vision of a just world would seem to be one in which women are required by law to carry pregnancies to term so that "sexually exploitive men" (her term) will be forced to acknowledge their children and bear the cost. More than caring about women and their problems, Ms. Mathewes-Green seems bent on seeing that men receive their just desserts. The police state that would result from such a proposal would inflict enormous social costs—and clearly is not in keeping with the goals of feminism. Feminists do not seek to bring men down in order to

Saturday and health fairs and much more.

Please join us for our next meeting and Pot Luck. I'm sure this is an organization you can really sink your teeth into (even if it is tofu.) Next class, Feb. 17th Olympia Community Center #201 7p.m. Future classes will be on the 4th Mon. Same time. Same place.

Questions concerning Earthsave Olympia contact Dan or Robyn O'Flaherty at Red Apple Natural Foods 357-8779.

put women up. Rather, feminist thought would have women seek their own independence in thought, action, and economic opportunity. As women achieve greater independence, men can move off the position of "Provider" and gain freedom to move into equally demanding nurturing roles. A feminist view is not restricted to women. Many men in earlier decades declared themselves feminists and hoped with their female counterparts, that leadership and management would take on a sense of wholeness and long term perspective, characteristics which they perceived to be the feminine side of humanity.

As a sign of Ms. Mathewes-Green's misunderstanding of the status of abortion rights, she asks, "What other hated group has to have an operation to achieve equality?" Women do not have abortions to achieve equality. Denying them the right to an abortion and thus the right to control their own bodies, however, does deny them equality and does reduce them to the status of chattel. Elsewhere she states, "It is imperative that we stop having abortions, that we refuse to choose violence against our own offspring, no matter what the law says" (my emphasis). But there simply are no U.S. laws requiring women to submit to abortion. While Ms. Mathewes-Green certainly is free to have an opinion opposing abortion and to respectfully inform women of other options, society should resist forceful harangues which limit women's freedom to think and choose for themselves. Note: The 1700 Crisis Pregnancy Clinics, of which she speaks, mostly offer intimidating anti-abortion films to teenagers lured by Yellow Page ads promising free-pregnancy tests [Faludi, *Backlash* p. 411]. On the day Faludi visited, "The only real service it [the Center] offered needy mothers was a few packets of infant formula and two hand-me-down cots."

As far as the safety of illegal abortion, the statistics are unclear. The numbers of deaths due to illegal medical procedures are never considered completely reliable for obvious reporting reasons. In Washington State, there were 44 reported deaths due to abortion between 1950 through 1970, the year abortion was legalized by a vote of the people in this State. Since 1971, there have been no deaths resulting from a legal abortion. In 1979, one woman died from a self-induced abortion. [Vital Statistics, Washington State 1989]. A black market in medical procedures cannot be considered anything but a most cruel idea to promote.

Respectfully, Teresa Jennings

The Real Issue of

Abortion:

Preventing Pregnancy

Letter to the Editor:

Frederica Mathewes-Green has her facts wrong. Carrying a pregnancy to term is not a healthier alternative to abortion. Vital statistics records show conclusively that, in maternal mortality terms, abortion is about ten times safer than carrying a pregnancy to term. This fact is only relevant to a woman who is pregnant when she doesn't want to be, however.

I agree with Ms. Mathewes-Green that we need to have fewer abortions—but through contraceptive use, not carrying unwanted pregnancies to term. The focus on abortion in this country keeps us from dealing with the real issue, which is the number of young women who get pregnant when they don't want to be. We have a problem in this country compared to other developed countries. Our young women get pregnant at about twice the rate of women in other developed countries; and over half the time when they don't want to be.

Let's quit getting sidetracked on abortion and get down to the real issue. If we want to reduce abortion, the most effective way is to reduce unwanted pregnancies through promoting contraceptive use when pregnancy is not desired. This approach would also be the most respectful of individual moral perspectives on when life begins.

Sincerely, Donnie Hanson

PUBLIC NOTICE

The FDA is attempting to make herbs and nutritional supplements unavailable in their current forms. Several herbal products have been removed from the market recently in Seattle, and more will likely occur. The effects of this action will decrease freedom of health care choices for all of us. This is a federal bill that can deny Americans the right to choose vitamins, herbs, amino acids, etc.

Please write to our Senators and make your voice known. Feel free to call Larene Dell, ND at 943-9524 for more information or go to Red Apple Natural Foods for written materials.

A RESPONSE TO PATRICK HALL'S ATTACK ON AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

Jose Gomez

In the centerfold article of the January 1992 *Works In Progress*, Patrick Hall joins the attack on affirmative action by not only such African American neoconservatives as Thomas Sowell, Shelby Steele and Stephen L. Carter, but also George Bush and the right-wing political establishment. I would like to comment on a number of assumptions which Hall makes about affirmative action:

1) That the social costs of affirmative action outweigh its benefits. Hall says that "the use of quotas and preferential hiring is extremely problematic and at best represents a Pyrrhic victory." He blames affirmative action for three excessive costs: the loss of "societal cohesion and racial tolerance," the "repoliticization of race," and the stigmatization of persons perceived to have been beneficiaries of affirmative action. However, this is an incomplete analysis. In his zeal to discredit affirmative action, Hall forgets or conveniently fails to examine the benefit side of the equation. He dismisses it as "so-called gains." Yet, a serious debate about affirmative action must be based on much more than the rhetoric of victimization and certainly on more than Hall's discomfort with racial debates by the body politic.

As for the societal costs which Hall attributes to affirmative action, the answers do not require deep thought. Affirmative action did not invent societal divisiveness and racial intolerance, nor will it end it. Affirmative action did not repoliticize race (it had never been depoliticized), nor will it end such politicization. Affirmative action did not invent racial stigmas, nor will it end them.

2) That civil rights legislation, in and of itself, will achieve the desired goal of equality. This assumption simply ignores the ample human experience that laws are only as good as they are enforced. This is particularly true about civil rights laws which encounter inertia and resistance from the very persons who need to alter their behavior, whether or not they change their hearts and minds. If even the enforcement tools which Hall calls "fateful goals, timetables and representations" have yielded slow, painful progress, where would this country be without them? The answer, certainly, is that the civil rights laws would remain as nothing more than rhetoric and empty promises.

Hall sees "betrayal" wherever he sees attempts (i.e., affirmative action) to go beyond the "ideals of the civil rights movement." The basic premise for his attack on affirmative action is summed up in his statement that "the civil rights movement gave us the right to vote, not the right to win." There you also have the fundamental difference between him and affirmative action proponents, who would see betrayal in a government that did not go beyond ideals. Of course the civil rights movement is all about the right to win! So is the Fourteenth Amendment. Without such a right, the right to vote becomes meaning-

less. Fortunately, those courts which believe that African Americans and other communities of color have a right to win have taken affirmative action to undo redistricting that dilutes and renders ineffective the voting power of African Americans and other communities of color.

Hall says that "affirmative action should...return to its original purpose of monitoring inequalities and discriminatory practices that still exist." Monitoring? Then what? Keep a statistical record and issue an annual report along with crime statistics? It is likely that this "monitoring" would continue to reveal systemic discrimination throughout our society, some very serious and some not so consequential, some conscious and some not so conscious, some malevolent and some benign. Then what? Sit back and wait for this social ill to correct itself?

3) That everyone is equally able to pull him/herself up by the bootstraps. Hall claims that "motivation,

Affirmative action did not invent societal divisiveness and racial intolerance, nor will it end it. Affirmative did not repoliticize race (it had never been depoliticized), nor will it end such politicization. Affirmative action did not invent racial stigmas, nor will it end them.

individual initiative, and perseverance can overcome the most abhorrent situations." Certainly this is true for many people, but not everyone is equally situated and not everyone has the same number of obstacles in his/her path. And discrimination is not meted out equally to everyone. Could racism deal a greater blow to some people and prevent them from going the extra mile? One must wonder why Hall is so reluctant to acknowledge the detrimental personal impact of discrimination but eager to emphasize "other factors that impede upward mobility": "a negative family background, lack of personal motivation and initiative, and a lack of values that emphasize effort and sacrifice." He does not bother to hypothesize, much less examine, whether and to what extent discrimination plays a role in the development of these "factors". Yet, he readily conjectures that "the defining of middle-class values as 'white' by both less-educated and educated blacks (who should know better) is perhaps the most insidious factor that continues to hamstring the progress of blacks as a group."

4) That affirmative action means "quotas." This is basically a red herring, which George Bush and other conservatives have exploited successfully to distort the true meaning of affirmative action. The use of quotas is unconstitutional in the ordinary course of employment or other business such as college admissions. Quotas today are used almost exclusively as extraordinary but appropriate remedies in court decrees issued after employers have been found guilty of discriminating affirmatively against a particular class of persons.

Finally, I would like to respond to

Hall's misrepresentation of the Evergreen's hiring objectives and procedures. While Evergreen has sought, successfully, to increase the number of persons of color hired, it has never used "blatant quotas" as he claims. Hall seems to object to Evergreen having any type of objective for hiring more persons of color. Why is the college committed to admissions, faculty hiring and staffing policies which bring to the campus a wide diversity of people? We must, if we are to remain relevant as a center of learning in a country with rapidly changing demographics and in a world with growing interdependence. The development of a capacity to recognize differences, to communicate and cooperate across them, and to respect their legitimacy is fundamental. We cannot do this without a diverse faculty, staff and student body.

So far, that is all rhetoric. How do we go beyond it? We get to what I call the "nitty-gritty" of affirmative ac-

tion. That means many things, but I'll limit myself to two here. First, it means doing intensive targeted recruitment to ensure that the applicant pool includes an adequate number of persons of color and women. What is adequate? At least their availability in the disciplines nationally. If we are seeking an anthropologist and 10% of the anthropologists available are African American, then at least 10% of our applicants had better be African American. If not, we haven't done an adequate recruiting job and we set about doing more.

Another aspect of the "nitty-gritty" of affirmative action is to ensure that all candidates are screened fairly. This requires careful monitoring and sometimes questioning how particular candidates have been rated. All candidates compete on their own merits on the stated qualifications. A sufficient number of times, candidates of color make it all the way through the screening process. Our rigorous and scrutinizing process has yielded highly qualified faculty. I do not know whom Hall describes as "vastly unqualified" nor how he has arrived at such a judgment. I will, however, respond in kind and say that he is vastly unqualified to do so, particularly if his bootstrap theory is his primary measure.

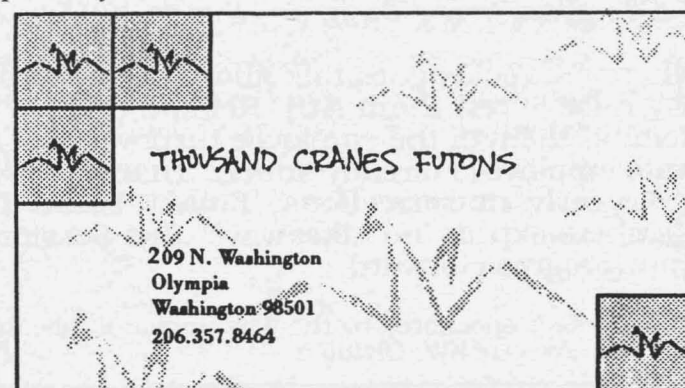
Hall shows his elitism and his contempt for alternative colleges and universities by claiming that Evergreen hired faculty from "mail-order institutes" over candi-

dates who "possessed credentials from places like Berkeley, Northwestern or Yale." This is misleading and ludicrous. One would think that Evergreen faculty got their degrees by sending in a form on the inside of a matchbook. The fact is that Evergreen faculty, including faculty of color, come from a variety of institutions, all accredited, including Berkeley, Northwestern, and Yale. As an alternative institution ourselves, we are not automatically awed by candidates from Ivy League schools. They are less likely to be qualified to teach at Evergreen than faculty from alternative schools.

Hall also blasts Evergreen for hiring a foreign national, even though he concedes that "this individual happened to be 'highly qualified.'" He states that "if the goal of affirmative action was to provide opportunities to historically oppressed minorities, giving the jobs to people from privileged classes from other countries is hardly what the framers of these policies had in mind." Here, Hall seriously confuses the college's affirmative action and multicultural (including international) objectives. First, not every hire should or can be the result of affirmative action. Second, the college's diversity is enriched with faculty from a variety of backgrounds, domestic and international. Third, we cannot and do not discriminate against anyone who is eligible for employment. This means that we do not reserve any positions for anyone who happens to fit a particular status of race, ethnicity, class, gender, national origin, sexual orientation, etc. That would be illegal discrimination and would make for a dull and deficient faculty. Persons from other countries, whether or not they meet the definition of affirmative action, are part of the diversity we seek. If we happen to hire someone from another country, we do not expect that person to represent the views or even understand the experiences of persons of color from the United States. They bring their own unique international perspectives to the curriculum.

The main problem with critiques on affirmative action by Hall, Shelby, Steel, Sowell and others is their eagerness to throw out the baby with the bath water, especially since they would have protested if someone had thrown it out when they were affirmatively and actively bathing in it. As any other policy, affirmative action in the United States does not have a perfect record, nor should it be expected to have one. It should not be exempt from rigorous scrutiny, but criticism should be honest and include the good and the bad, the benefits as well as the costs. That is the very least one would expect from persons who themselves have benefitted from affirmative action.

Jose Gomez is Associate Academic Dean at The Evergreen State College.



Boycott: Gillette Products

Zachary D. Lyons

The Gillette Company remains the target of an on-going boycott of its products called by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA). PETA charges that "Gillette uses inherently abusive product tests that are not required by law and have not even proven effective in preventing human injury," according to Kathy Guillermo, Lifestyles Campaign Director for PETA.

But Joan Fitzgerald, Director of Corporate Public Affairs for Gillette, writes, "Gillette uses laboratory animal tests only when legally required, expressly or implicitly, and when considered by the company necessary. Gillette also is committed to a program to validate and adopt alternatives to laboratory animal testing for product safety."

"Many companies have begun to label their products with statements indicating that no animals have been used to test the product," Fitzgerald states. "As far as we know," says Neil Wilcox, D.V.M., director of the United States Food & Drug Administration's (FDA) Office of Animal Care and Use, "what these companies do is use, for the most part, old reliable ingredients that have been proven safe [based on past animal data and a history of safe use] and then test the final product on people."

Fitzgerald continues, "It is a well-established fact that most of the ingredients contained in products that are labelled 'cruelty-free' have been tested in animals at some time. Some cosmetic product distributors who are not manufacturers purchase a standard lotion or cream, and package

them as 'cruelty-free' because the distributors did not themselves conduct the necessary laboratory animal tests. The safety of these products, however, has been assured by previous animal testing."

"Ms. Fitzgerald gives no date for the quote from Neil Wilcox, DVM, of the FDA," PETA's Guillermo responds. "She implies, however, that there is something reprehensible about using known-safe ingredients. On the contrary, for many companies, this is a very practical way to manufacture products without abusing animals."

"The fact that most ingredients have at one time or another been tested on animals should not be used by Gillette as an excuse to continue animal tests. Nor does it mean that animal tests will always be the only way to determine the damage a product may do to humans. On the contrary, many of the new non-animal tests have proven more effective than animal tests for a range of substances."

"Gillette's implication that no new products are being developed

for example. Many companies have chosen to use some of the thousands of known-safe ingredients, rather than experiment with substances whose properties are less well known. They are to be commended for choosing a safe, humane method of manufacturing."

"PETA is interested in company policies; we can't rewrite history and undo testing that was done. We can only try to ensure that companies adopt policies permanently eliminating future abuses."

"The Gillette Company is a broad-based manufacturer of consumer [emphasis hers] products. In addition to making cosmetics, Gillette manufactures products - such as those in our oral care line - that are classified by the FDA as prescription drugs and over-the-counter drugs.... Data documenting efficacy and safety are required by the FDA before any new drug is approved for testing in clinical trials on human beings.... In addition, a number of personal care products, such as antiperspirants and antidandruff shampoos, are defined as over-the-counter drugs and are examples of consumer products for which the use of laboratory animal tests is expressly required by law."

"PETA clearly disagrees with Gillette about the 'necessity' of animal tests. I acknowledge that Gillette officials really do believe they need to conduct animal tests, even though many other companies have stopped. . . [Guillermo]

without animal tests is untrue and, frankly, self-serving," Guillermo charges. "In fact, the companies that do not test on animals usually use a battery of non-animal tests, such as Eytex and the Het-Cam Test, in conjunction with human skin patch tests,

"PETA has not taken issue with Gillette over its use of animals for testing prescription drugs. Our Caring Consumer Campaign is directed at animal tests that are not required by law," reminds PETA's Guillermo. "Please note Gillette's phrase, 'expressly or implicitly' when referring to tests required by law. I'm not sure what an implicit requirement is; either animal tests are required or they're not. In the case of non-prescription toiletries, cosmetics and personal care items, animal tests are not required by law."

The FDC Act, administered by the FDA, prohibits the distribution of adulterated or misbranded cosmetic products. A cosmetic is considered adulterated if it contains a substance that may make it harmful to consumers under customary conditions of use.

If a manufacturer fails to establish safety and markets an adulterated cosmetic, the manufacturer is subject to both civil and criminal penalties.

"Shampoos, hair sprays, deodorants and home permanents are examples of the types of consumer cosmetic products for which the use of laboratory animal tests is implicitly required by law....

"Dr. David Kessler, commissioner of the FDA, has gone on record in stating, with regard to the use of the Draize eye and skin irritancy tests, that, 'The FDA has encouraged the development of alternative test methods and is aware that many such tests are in various stages of evolution. However, none of these tests has been accepted by the scientific community as replacements to the Draize tests.'..."

"The ethical rationale for laboratory animal research is based on the necessity for such research in the absence of non-animal alternatives. Until *in vitro* tests are reliable

enough to ensure all aspects of human health and safety, laboratory animal research will be needed to validate the results of non-animal tests. Abandoning laboratory animal research as the basis for safety assessments before non-animal tests have proved to be valid would subject employees and consumers to an unacceptable risk."

"This... does not negate the fact that animal tests are not required by law for toiletries and over the counter consumer products," reiterates Guillermo. "Nor does it change the fact that literally hundreds of companies produce similar products without testing them on animals."

"PETA can quote an equal number of health care experts who believe that product tests on animals are useless in the treatment of humans who have been injured by products.... It's also interesting to note the recent statement (*Tucson Citizen*, 10-15-91) from John Hazard, consumer safety officer for the FDA, 'Basically, it's up to the company to test the product or drug or whatever to give some assurance of its safety. Just how they do that, though, is up to them. The FDA doesn't require the Draize test or any other animal test. In fact, we'd like to see it avoided as much as possible.'"

"PETA clearly disagrees with Gillette about the 'necessity' of animal tests. I acknowledge that Gillette officials really do believe they need to conduct animal tests, even though many other companies have stopped. However, as I said to Gillette representatives in a December, 1991, meeting, PETA believes that these tests are wrong, that we do not have a right to use animals in this way. If Gillette believes it can't manufacture products without using animals, they should stop manufacturing products until they can. ...Why should morality stop short of good business?... We continue to ask Gillette and other large corporate users of animals, is the cost in lives worth yet another deodorant or shampoo?"

PETA will not end its boycott of Gillette products until The Gillette Company declares a permanent ban on all non-pharmaceutical animal testing. In the meantime, PETA asks that concerned individuals boycott all Gillette products except the Jafra skin care line. Products boycotted include: Silkience, White Rain, Mink Difference, The Dry Look, Tame, and Toni Home Perms hair care products; Foamy Shaving Cream, Atra, Swival, Face Saver, Daisy, Trac II, Good News, Sensor shaving products; Soft & Dry, Right Guard, Dry Idea, Imagine Body Spray deodorants; Liquid Paper, Paper Mate, Flair office products; Aapri skin products and Braun appliances and Oral B products.

For more information or to express your concerns, you may contact PETA or Gillette as follows:

PETA
PO Box 42516
Washington, DC 20015-0516
301-770-PETA

The Gillette Company
Prudential Tower Building
Boston, MA 02199

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Senator Mike Kreidler Representative Jennifer Belcher Representative Karen Fraser

A Call for Leadership: Support State Employees

The 1992 Legislature is now in Session, but months ago, some lawmakers were announcing the fate of state employees: no pay raise, lay-offs, and health benefit cuts!

What kind of "leadership" is that? State employees have suffered under pay rates **already** 15-20% below prevailing rates. Recent and past lay-offs have **diminished any real security** employees have had. And, you are well aware of the **health benefit reductions** imposed on state employees last July -- that was on top of past benefit cuts.

In spite of less than fair treatment, state employees do a **FIRST CLASS** job for our citizens. Thirty-five percent of them hold college degrees. The average has contributed 8 years of state service. With case-load increases, new programs, and without rank and file added staffing -- plenty of new managers, though -- **state employees give 100% plus, every day!**

When your colleagues talk about taking away the 3.6% pay raise -- **tell them NO!** Remind them of the above. Remind them of the employee turnover rate and stress state employees already suffer. That rate is as high as 23% yearly, at Corrections. Finally, **LEAD THEM.** Our Members expect "no takeaways" this Session. We also want progress forward.

This message sponsored by the Washington Public Employees Assn.
124 10th Avenue SW, Olympia (206) 943-1121

Women and the HIV/AIDS Crisis

Nanci La Musga

Women, both nationally and internationally, are contracting the Human Immuno-Deficiency Virus (HIV) at an alarming rate. In the United States this past year, the HIV infection among women goes undiagnosed or misdiagnosed by health care practitioners. Even completely a risk assessment of behavior, under the present standards, allows up to 20-40% of HIV positive women to go undetected. This is due in some part to how HIV affects women's bodies. Up to this point, the major studies done in the US have been on HIV infection in men. Consequently, the variety of signs, symptoms and diseases associated with HIV and women remain unresearched and under-documented. What has been determined and stated as a mandate of the signs and symptoms have not included any that are female-specific. These female-specific gynecological symptoms may be the first signs of HIV infection or AIDS in women. Recognition of these gynecological signs is critical to the early diagnosis and treatment of women.

In the US, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) is the governmental regulatory agency that determines and controls much of the information and research that the government supplies around the issue of HIV/AIDS. It was only this year, after pending law suits and public outcry that the CDC began a research study of HIV infection in women. This study is not expected to be completed for two more years and, until then, what of the women living and

dying of HIV infection? Until findings from studies, such as the CDC's, which focus on HIV infected women are completed and questions of misdiagnosis are addressed the true picture will not be known. However, from other studies done to date such as the ACT-UP New York Study on Women and HIV, the fol-

Today we find HIV infection increasing at an alarming rate, with 65% of women dying of HIV-related symptoms before reaching the fourth stage of HIV infection...

lowing symptoms warrant women and medical practitioners to take notice. Along with these symptoms, we encourage anyone who feels that they have participated in a risky behavior to have an HIV antibody test.

Five years ago we were told that women had little to no risk of infection. Today we find HIV infection increasing at an alarming rate, with 65% of women dying of HIV-related symptoms before reaching the fourth stage of HIV infection, or what is commonly referred to as AIDS. Creating an accurate and in-

clusive picture of HIV infection in women is problematic. We do not have all the information yet and we are a diverse group. There are differences in class, race, ethnicity, gender preference, behavior and life-style, that can influence how HIV infection affects our lives.

Just as the government needs to research women's healthcare issues adequately and provide accessible quality healthcare for everyone, so

must we begin to identify and talk about the differences in our gender group. Begin to recognize the effects of those differences and how oppression influences women's living with and dying from HIV infection.

Denial is easier but much more deadly. What may not affect us on a personal level may be hastening our sisters' deaths.

For further information, contact the Olympia AIDS Task force at 352-2375, or the Thurston County Health Department HIV/AIDS Project, 786-5581, ext. 6949.

Medical Manifestations of HIV in Women

1. **Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs).** It is suggested that genital ulcer diseases (especially genital herpes, chancroid, genital warts and syphilis) increase the risk of contracting HIV/AIDS. While studies are not yet conclusive, we know that unprotected oral, anal, or vaginal sex put us at risk of HIV infection as well as other STDs.

2. **Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID).** May include endometritis, infection of the fallopian tubes, abscess on the ovaries or fallopian tubes, or pelvic peritonitis.

3. **Candidiasis.** A constant or recurring vaginal yeast infection. Many women with HIV infection experience severe, recurring yeast infections before any other signs of immune dysfunction.

4. **Herpes Simplex Virus.** HIV infected women have herpes simplex virus more often than women without HIV infection.

5. There is a strong association between HIV infection and the occurrence of abnormal pap smears, cervical cancer and the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) that causes genital warts.

Sane Socialization

Todd Denny

America is historically a violent society. We fit the classical paradigm of a warrior nation. When we are not at war we are either recovering from the previous one or preparing for the next. Through the generations violence is learned from cultural conditioning. It permeates our homes and is reinforced by our schools, the media and society. "The rudiments of male violence can be found in early male socialization," wherein the American male is systematically nursed by a violence prone ethic. Boys generally are not taught directly to be violent, but neither are they taught to avoid or condemn violence. Boys learn to "never start fights", but always "to finish them". The line of distinction between self-defense and violence is often blurred (in practice) during child interaction and adolescent interaction away from adults.

It is intriguing to ask oneself why it is we can look north to our Canadian neighbors, who share a similar language, cultural norms and beliefs, and find a national homicide rate which is less than 1% of our own? Population size differences cannot begin to explain the differ-

ences. There is a companion question: Why is it we can look south to our Mexican neighbors, with their different language base and profoundly lower economic development, but find a nation with rates of homicide and other measures of social violence equal or in excess of our own? It is a complex matter — one not easily answered by pointing to one, simple index such as race, social class, gender or ethnicity. It is a cultural mix that is all pervasive. For purposes of raising questions for analysis and discussion we can nev-

...the American male is systematically nursed by a violence prone ethic.

ertheless detect rather obvious patterns. First, let's take a look at gender.

"Beyond the primary caretakers' subtle encouragements, other agents of socialization play a role in teaching young males the acceptability of violence."

Competitive sports are a clear example, youth football encourages young males to be violent toward other young males as individuals and as a group. Monday night for a large portion of adult male America is devoted to watching the NFL game

of the week. Savage gang tackling, debilitating the quarterback, and a variety of other violent executions are extolled as "the way the game was meant to be played." It is an orthopedic surgeon's dream come true.

Whichever players escape his expertise during the brief professional careers will return either for his attention or that of a neurosurgeon in their later years. Adult coaches, parents and spectators all participate directly in this kind of violence-oriented male socialization. Little league football is not alone in this, however, since adults often exhort young males to annihilate the "enemy" in many types of little league sports programs including hockey. Even baseball evokes adult rage as can be witnessed by the behavior of moms and dads at Little League games.

Another agent of socialization, the mass media, participate heavily in the instruction of male violence. From comic books to television to video games, young males are taught the violent dimension of masculinity. Violence is not an innate propensity in males, but rather a function of society teaching young males what it means to be a man.

Violence, aggression and forceful behavior are traits of masculinity which American males are taught to internalize. Rape is a manifestation of that encouraged aggressive behavior. The male sex role teaches men masculine norms which include: being a conqueror, a subduer, a forcer, and so on. Psychologically this prepares men to assume violently aggressive roles with others. Too often, the population violence is targeted towards those without power, women, children and people of color.

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Westside Continued

1/2 pages of signatures supporting his position.

However, Dave Baxter testified that as a business owner along Harrison Avenue, he also paid for the LID ten years ago. He said that Westside Center tenants were not advised or consulted about the planned tenancy of Jack-in-the-Box.

Sandy Mackie addressed the City Council as the representative for the Verbrugge Family Trust as well as 15-20 other business interests. He stated downzoning of the Westside Center would be unlawful and improper. He recommended that Council consider it's normal process of involving the Planning Commission before making any immediate changes to the land uses in the area. He also questioned the value of comprehensive planning and zoning if those decisions are overturned by neighborhood complaints.

Scott Merriman said he was in favor of a freeze on new building permits in this area and asked that the Council direct the Planning Commission to amend the land use and transportation chapters of the Comprehensive Plan.

The Council voted to hold a public hearing on an interim freeze for the geographical area from Cushing Street to Kenyon. A freeze would not effect anything already in process, such as the Jack-in-the-Box. A subcommittee of the friends of the Westside Center worked specifically in opposition to the Jack-in-the-Box, citing parking and traffic problems. City Manager Dick Cushing stated the parking issue has been resolved, and that a building permit could be issued in a week.

Later, in a telephone interview, Merriman praised the remarkable efforts of the Friends of the Westside Center. However, characterized it as a bandage approach to a problem; he pointed out that even if Albertson's can't get the Westside Center location, they will still be looking for an area

site for their store. They could locate a few blocks down the street, which would still put pressure on the stores at the Center.

He stressed the need for comprehensive growth management for the entire Westside area. He expressed his belief that the city is trying to respond to citizens concerns, and that we need to give them credit for that.

Dave Baxter has some reservations about the City's good intentions, at least about the Jack-in-the-Box issue. He said they are treating it as if it's a done deal, but it's not; he said that there is an appeal process that he and other tenants will use to try to block construction. They will appeal to the Hearings Examiner, and then the losing party can appeal to the City Council. Baxter said that at the Council meeting, by making it appear that the Jack-in-the-Box's construction is inevitable, the city appeared to be siding with the other side.

When I expressed bafflement over the various acronyms, city offices and diverse community groups I encountered researching this story, Merriman acknowledged it's "incredibly complex." The issues are not simple. "How much influence can you have over development? Legally, probably not much. What is local business? A franchise with an owner that lives in the community?"

"Some time and energy needs to go into this, to come up with a comprehensive solution. Downzoning the Westside Center is a start."

And perhaps a model for future action. The special hearing before the city council is on the February 10th at 7:00 at City Hall. This is an important opportunity for us not only to preserve the character of the Westside, but to shape growth policy for the larger community.

For information on how you can get involved, contact Diane Hoglund at 866-4944.

TESC Presidential Candidates Announced

Diana Arens

Six candidates for the presidency of The Evergreen State College, chosen by the Search Committee DTF (Disappearing Task Force), were announced January 15 by the Board of Trustees. These candidates will be visiting the Olympia and Tacoma campuses throughout February. The 14 member Search Committee was made up of students, staff, and faculty of Evergreen, as well as a community member and two ex officio members of the Board of Trustees. As a member of the Search Committee, I have had a chance to interview and talk with each of the candidates. Although each candidate is qualified, our committee was made up of diverse elements, and we could not come to consensus in forwarding these names to the Board of Trustees, who will make the final decision. I urge all interested people to attend the public presentations, ask lots of questions of the candidates, and most importantly submit your impressions, analysis and recommendations in writing to the Evergreen Board of Trustees to try to influence their decision. This is most effective if you can attend public presentations for all six candidates, and submit your comments concerning each of the candidates to-

gether. This will take some time, but it's important.

Fontaine Belford is a member of the faculty at The Union Institute in Cincinnati, Ohio. Previously Dr. Belford was Provost of the University and Dean of the Graduate School at the Union Institute. She has been a teacher of English and French Literature, Philosophy, and Humanities. She has a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from the University of North Carolina. Dr. Belford is on the Board of Advisors for the National Association for Multicultural Education.

The exact schedules of the interviews have not been finalized, but tentatively, there will be an all campus community lecture at noon the first day in the TESC Library Lobby, a public reception on the evening of the first day, and an open student forum at noon the second day in the CAB. If you cannot attend, there will continuous video playback of the public presentation on campus. The candidates will be visiting the Tacoma Campus the evening of the second day.

FONTAINE BELFORD FEB 3-4
GORDON DAVIES FEB 5-6
RICHARD THOMPSON FEB 10-11
JANE JERVIS FEB 18-19
RUTH BRANDWEIN FEB 20-21
ROBERTO HARO FEB 24-25

Testifying Before The Senate

Diana Arens

On January 18 I testified to the Senate Ways and Means Committee on the effects of the governor's budget on higher education, specifically concerning the proposed 35% Evergreen tuition hike.

I was warned beforehand that this committee was conservative, Republican controlled. I had a lot of misgivings about testifying. I abhor the idea of groveling for something that should be everyone's right: affordable higher education. But I went anyway, to try to convince my elected representatives that they should, in fact, represent me.

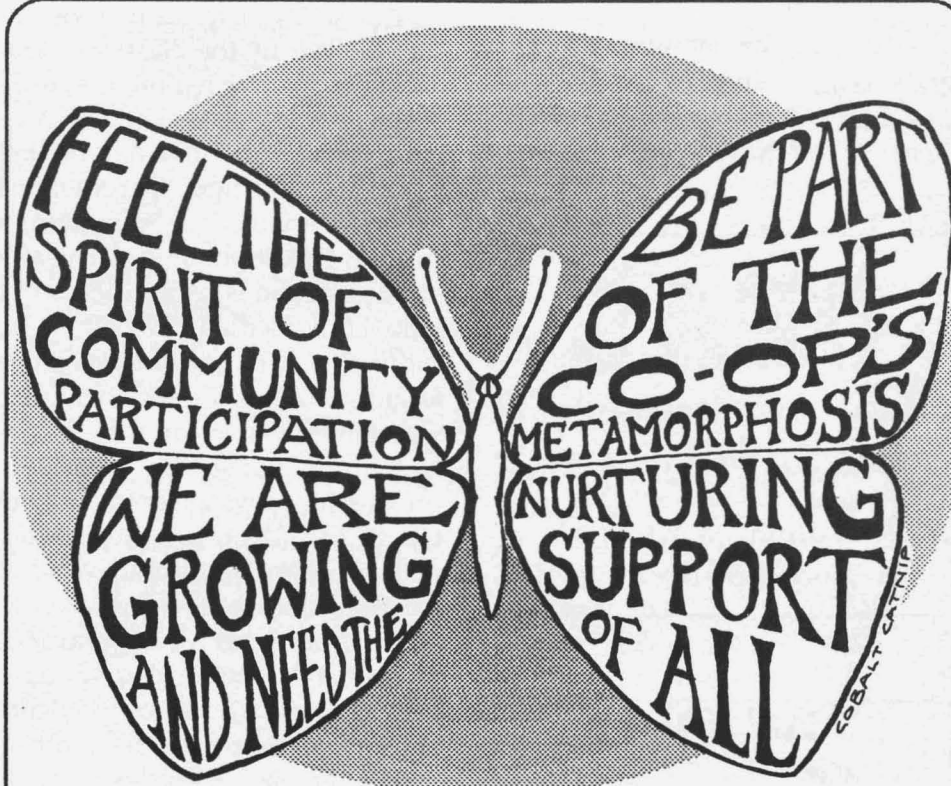
The hearing room was quite large, there were about 75 people in the audience, and the senators were arranged in front of us in a graduated gallery. They were arranged in rows, facing the audience. The senators in the back row had a clear view of the rest of the senators' backs, as well as the audience. To speak to the committee, one sits at a desk in front of the audience, facing the committee. Everyone speaks into microphones.

Nineteen of the 23 member committee showed up to the hearing; there were 13 white men and 6 white women. 14 of the senators were more than 15 minutes late. Preceding the testimony, the senators briefly debated and voted against establishing a Rainy Day Fund in the budget. The manner of the debate was interesting. Chairman MacDonald moderated the discussion. The senators would speak to his back, then he would reply, not

facing the person. The senators also spoke and replied without viewing the people they were conversing with. Even after the negative vote, a few senators continued spouting rhetoric, for the record, I suppose.

Eighteen Evergreen students signed up to testify against the tuition plan contained in Booth Gardner's budget plan. Chairman MacDonald asked us to choose one representative speaker. Instead, 10 of us testified, feeling we didn't want to be silenced after sitting through their rhetoric. While we were testifying, the Senators felt free to talk amongst themselves, come and go, and jump up to get themselves coffee or tea from the beverage cart. (Which I'm assuming was tax funded, but the privilege was withheld from the taxpayers present.)

I went in front of this committee expecting to confront a bunch of authoritarian pig-dogs. I was not surprised to see that the majority of them were men. I was mildly surprised to see that they were all white. What surprised me was the ghastly pall of their skin, they looked almost inhuman. I cannot put my finger on it. It wasn't the 70's suits. It wasn't the helmet hair. Perhaps it was their removal from the everyday experience of living. They looked and sounded inauthentic. When people talk about The Government, or The State, I understand that this is a group of people who represent business. To actually go talk to them drove home the fact that these people do not represent me, don't mean to represent me, and are most likely out to oppress people of my class.



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